ARPEGGIO's Story Guide

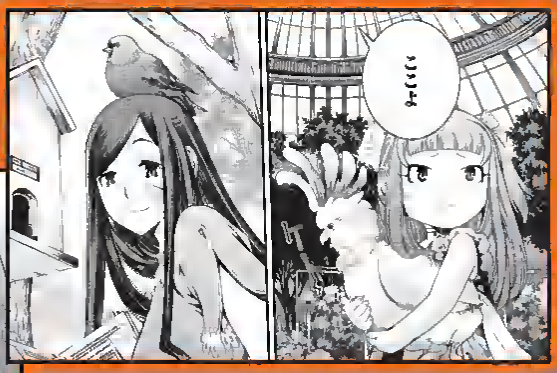
STORY

Takao was wounded so badly in her battle with U-2501 that she can't regenerate herself. She is taken by 402 to Yamato. There, she meets High Flagship Yamato's other mental model, Kotono. Meanwhile, Haruna's group goes to Hakodate to see Makie, and meets with the Prime Minister of the Northern Sector. At first, Makie rejects Haruna, but after they each learn what the other is thinking, she decides to accompany her. Meanwhile, the Hakugei is expecting to rendezvous with the 401 when it sees two Fog ships fighting one another. And the 401 is entering the area where Kongou waits...

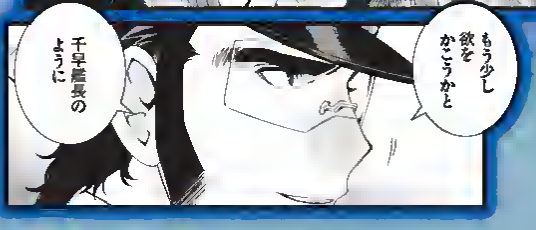
Takao regenerates with Yamato's help, but she fights Yamato over Gunzou.

Haruna learns from the Prime Minister of the Northern Sector that Makie refuses to meet with her.

Makie is living with Gunzou's mother, who had previously let Takao stay with her. The two of them understand each other, and Makie agrees to go with Haruna.



The Hakugei encounters a battle between two Fog ships, and decides to help the pursued Repulse.



New Characters

Kotono

Yamato's other mental model.

Zuikaku

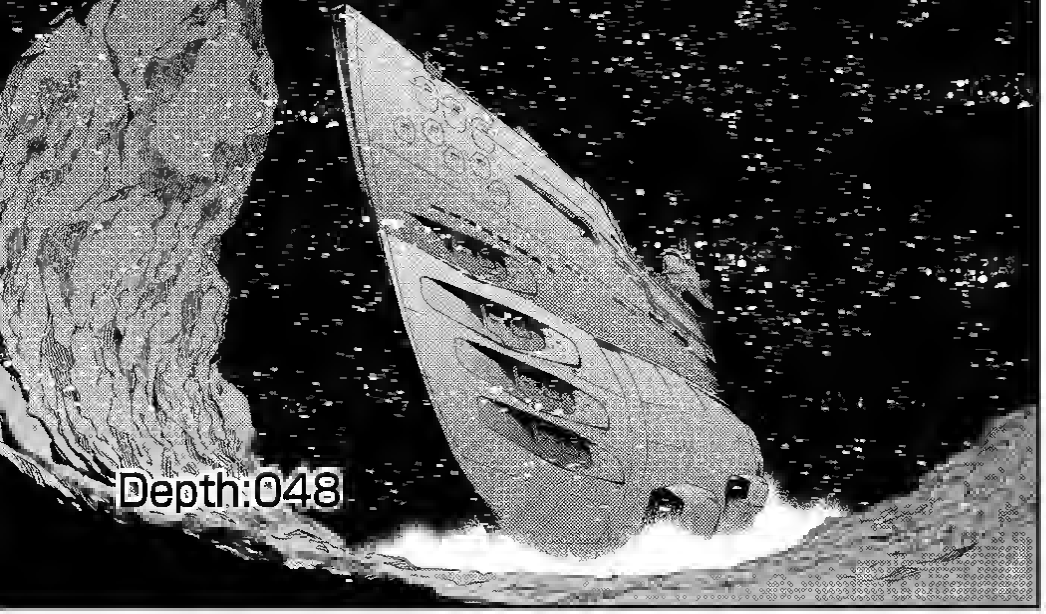
A Fog Sea Aree Assault end Suppression ship. Stationed in the Sea of Okhotsk.

Saori Chihaya

Genzoe Chihaya's mother. Kept in isolatioe in Hakodate hy the goveremeat.

Repulse

A Fog battlecruiser. She's being chased by the Prince of Wales.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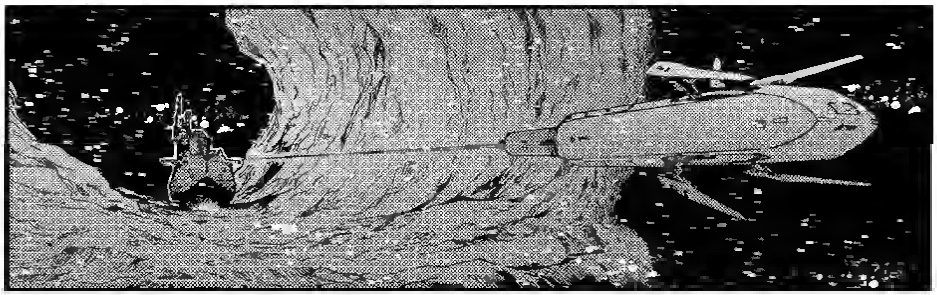
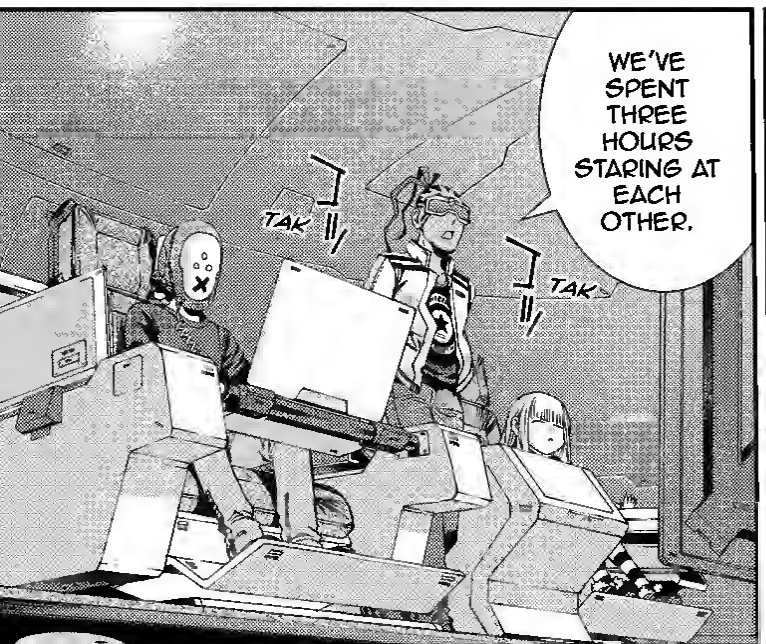


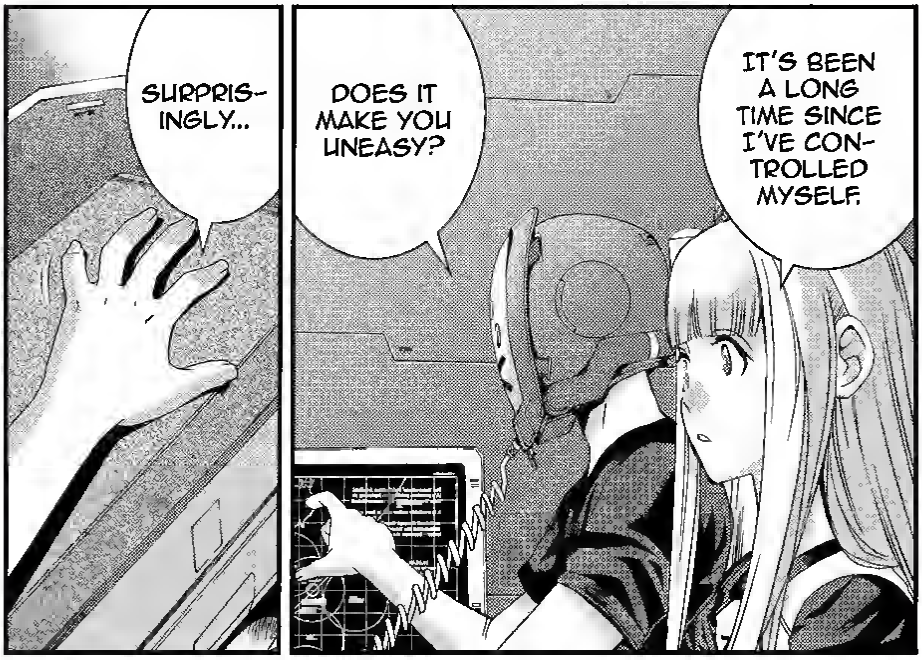

WE'VE SPENT THREE HOURS STARING AT EACH OTHER.
TAK
TAK

...
P-HOOM

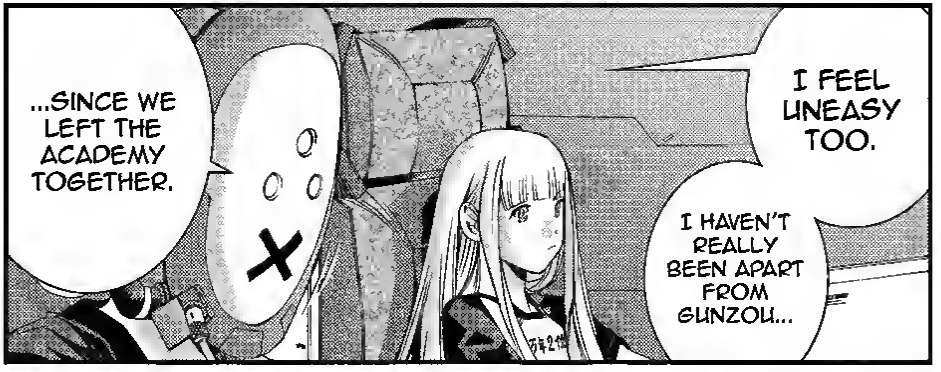
...OF THE LARGE BATTLESHIP KONGOU'S PURSUIT FLEET.
BEEP
WE WERE LUCKY JUST TO GET TO THE EDGE...
BEEP
...AND FOUR DESTROYERS ABOVE US.
THERE ARE TWO HEAVY CRUISERS...
I CAN STILL...
SQUIRR
SQUIRR
PLEASE REST UP, AND GET SOME FOOD.
MISS HODZUMI, IT'S YOUR TURN.

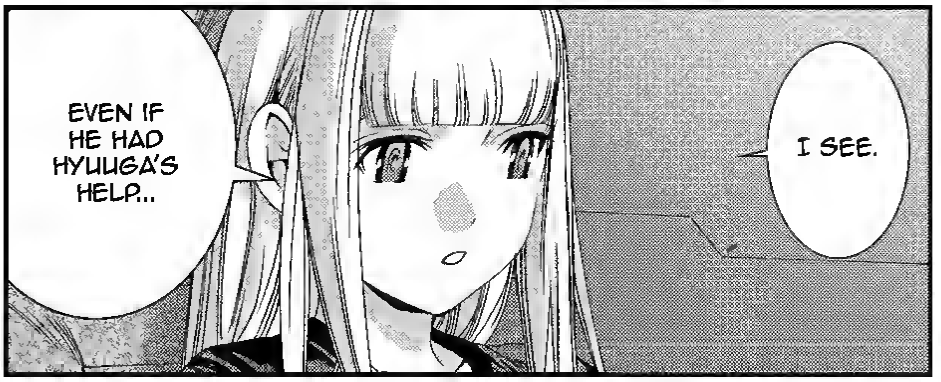
IT'LL BE FINE.
I'M HANDLING THE BASIC ACOUSTIC ANALYSIS.
WE DON'T KNOW HOW LONG THIS IS GOING TO TAKE.
PLEASE TAKE THIS OPPORTUNITY.
I'LL BE BACK SOON.
THANKS.
OKAY, THEN.

.....
CLICK
CLICK
代理


SURPRISINGLY...
DOES IT MAKE YOU UNEASY?
IT'S BEEN A LONG TIME SINCE I'VE CONTROLLED MYSELF.

WHEN I HEARD ABOUT THAT PLAN FROM GUNZOU, EVEN IF I'M CARRYING YOU...
...I THOUGHT I WOULD SIMPLY RETURN TO BEING ME, BUT...

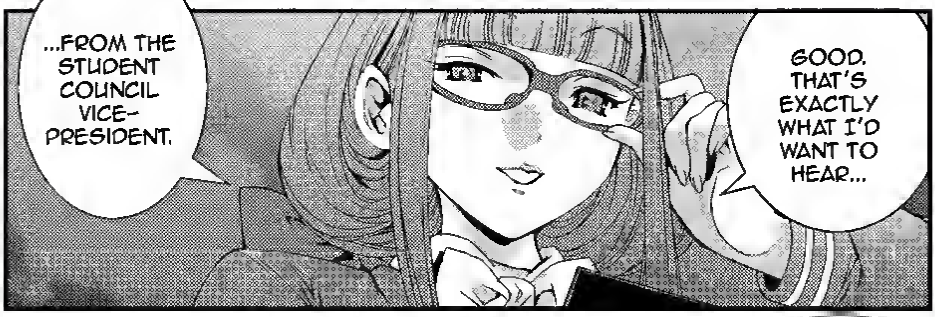

I FEEL UNEASY TOO.
I HAVEN'T REALLY BEEN APART FROM GUNZOU...
...SINCE WE LEFT THE ACADEMY TOGETHER.

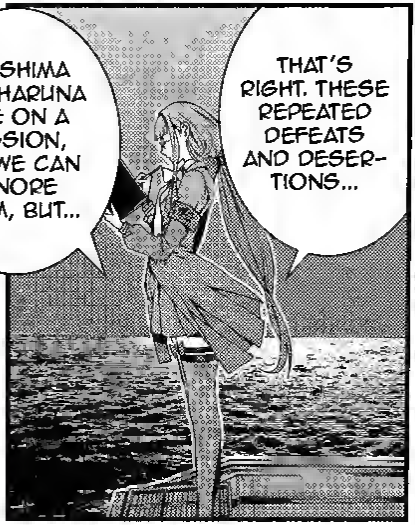

I SEE.
EVEN IF HE HAD HYUUGA'S HELP...

THE PERMANENT NUMBER-TWO IS ALL GROWN UP NOW
HE'S GONE BEYOND MY EXPEC-TATIONS
SHWOOOM

MYOUKOU, WHAT ABOUT THE FORWARD RECON FLEETS?
I'VE LEFT IT TO MY SECOND AND THIRD SISTER.
SHWOOM

DON'T WORRY.
THE FLEET FLAGSHIP CAN'T MOVE RIGHT NOW.
SHE'S ESTAB-LISHING HER FLAGSHIP ABILITIES.
I KNOW. IF THE 401 GETS CLOSE TO KONGOU SOMEHOW...
...I'LL PROTECT HER, EVEN IF IT MEANS I SINK.
MISS STUDENT COUNCIL PRESIDENT.

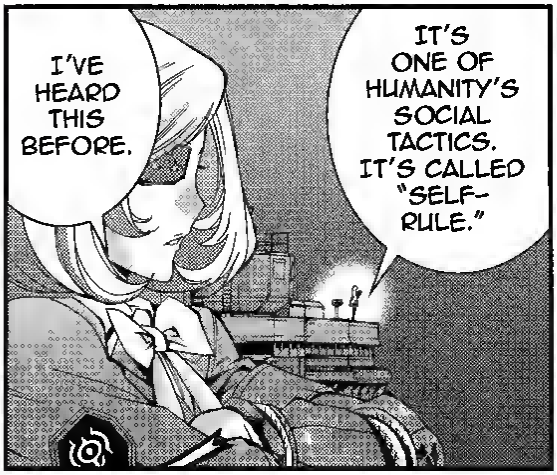

...FROM THE STUDENT COUNCIL VICE-PRESIDENT.
GOOD. THAT'S EXACTLY WHAT I'D WANT TO HEAR...


KIRISHIMA AND HARUNA ARE ON A MISSION, SO WE CAN IGNORE THEM, BUT...
THAT'S RIGHT. THESE REPEATED DEFEATS AND DESER-TIONS...

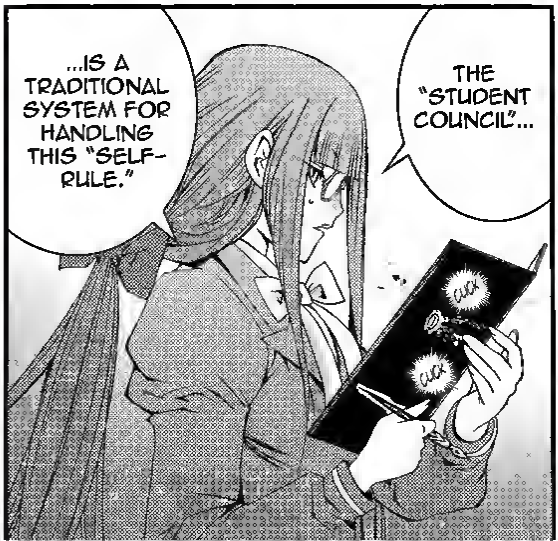
I WANT TO GO BACK TO MY OLD APPEAR-ANCE.
HEY, MYOUKOU. WHY ARE WE DRESSED LIKE THIS?
THE FOG NEEDS TO REES-TABLISH ORDER, HAGURO.

...AND THE 401, THE CAUSE OF ALL THIS...
HYUUGA AND TAKAO...

AND NOW LOOK AT US!
SHUNK
THE FOG WERE ORIGINALLY A PROUD, BEAUTIFUL UNION.
GRRK

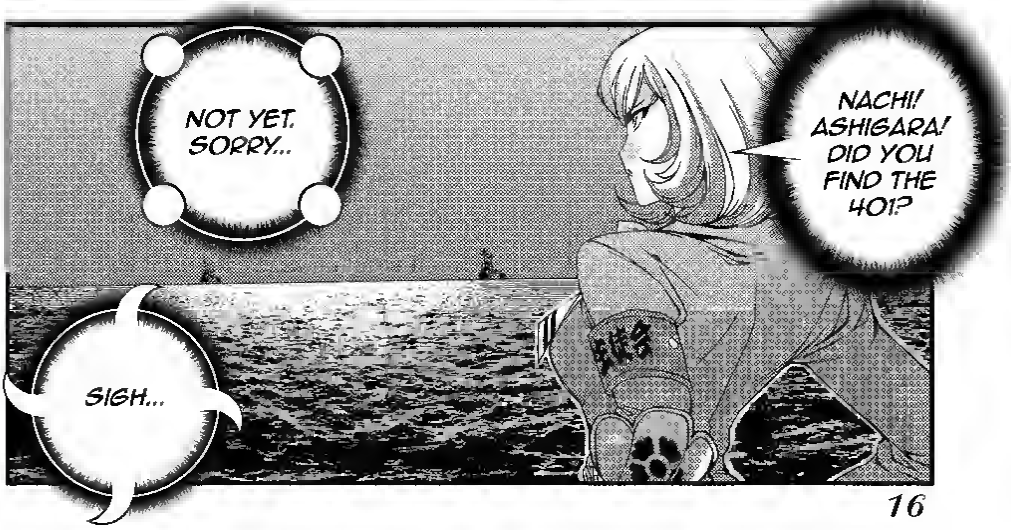

I'VE HEARD THIS BEFORE.
IT'S ONE OF HUMANITY'S SOCIAL TACTICS. IT'S CALLED "SELF-RULE."

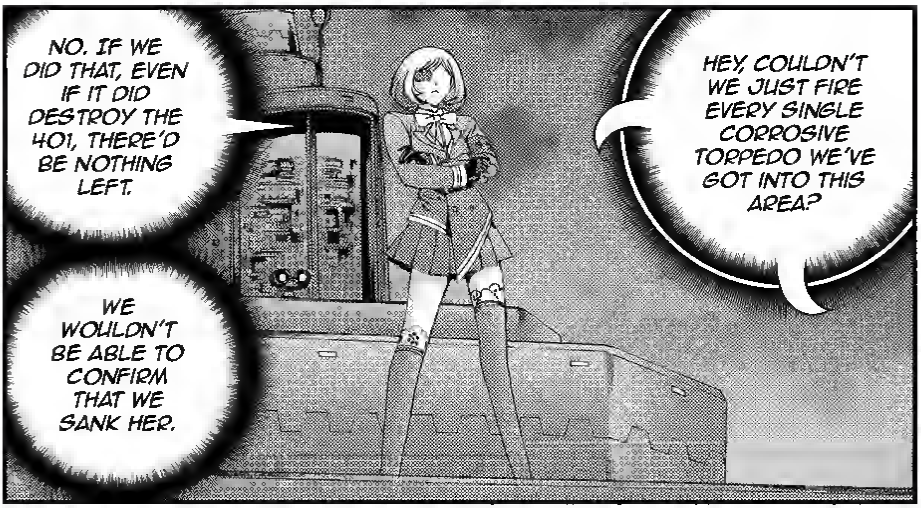
BUT STILL, I DON'T KNOW ABOUT THIS OUTFIT...

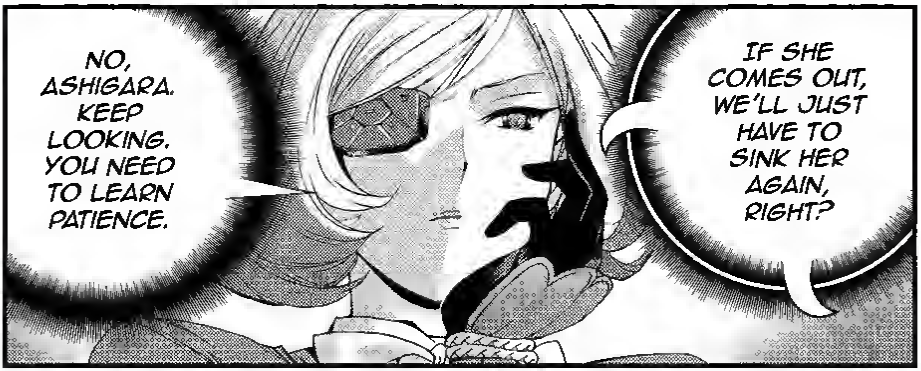

...IS A TRADITIONAL SYSTEM FOR HANDLING THIS "SELF-RULE."
THE "STUDENT COUNCIL"...
CLICK
CLICK

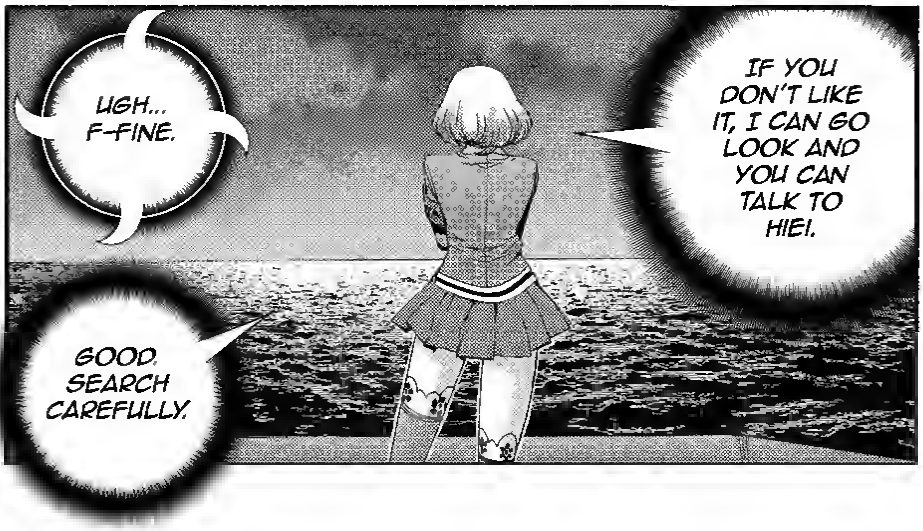
BBBT!
...IS IT NOT THE BEST SYSTEM FOR US TO MAINTAIN ORDER?
NOW THAT WE HAVE MENTAL MODELS AND WILLS OF OUR OWN, LIKE HUMANS DO...
SO WHY DON'T YOU TELL THAT...
YOU HEARD HER, ATAGO.
...TAKAO?
...TO YOUR BIG SISTER...

HMPH.

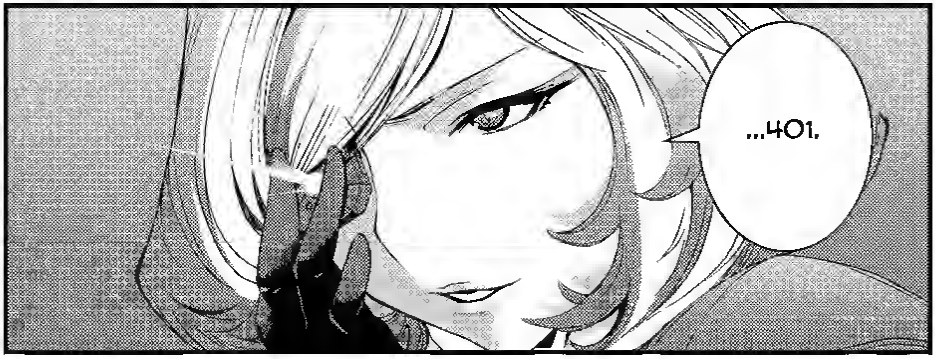

NACHI! ASHIGARA! DID YOU FIND THE 401?
NOT YET. SORRY...
SIGH...

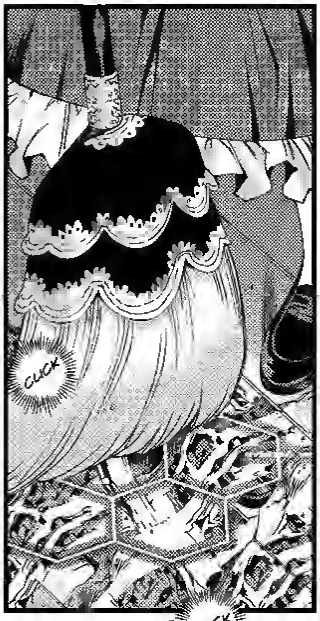

HEY, COULDN'T WE JUST FIRE EVERY SINGLE CORROSIVE TORPEDO WE'VE GOT INTO THIS AREA?
NO. IF WE DID THAT, EVEN IF IT DID DESTROY THE 401, THERE'D BE NOTHING LEFT.
WE WOULDN'T BE ABLE TO CONFIRM THAT WE SANK HER.

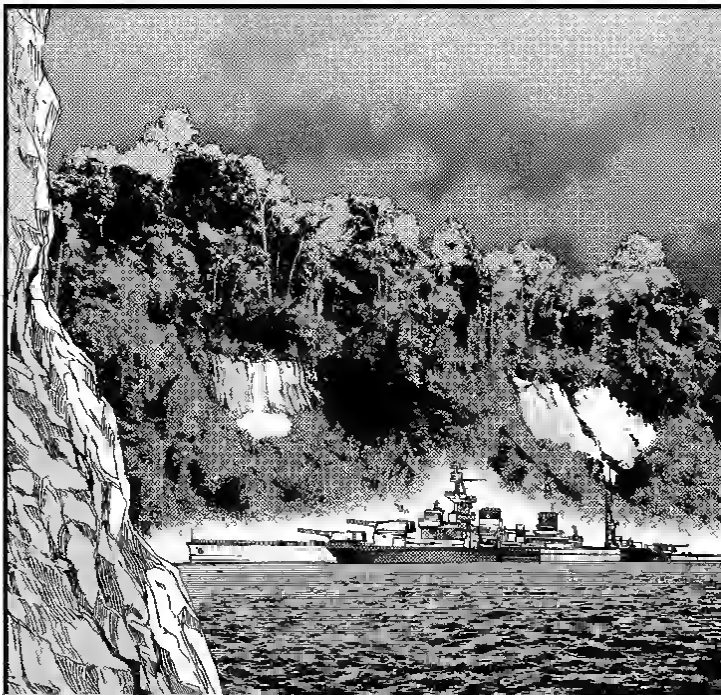

IF SHE COMES OUT, WE'LL JUST HAVE TO SINK HER AGAIN, RIGHT?
NO, ASHIGARA. KEEP LOOKING. YOU NEED TO LEARN PATIENCE.


IF YOU DON'T LIKE IT, I CAN GO LOOK AND YOU CAN TALK TO HIEI.
UGH... F-FINE.
GOOD. SEARCH CAREFULLY.

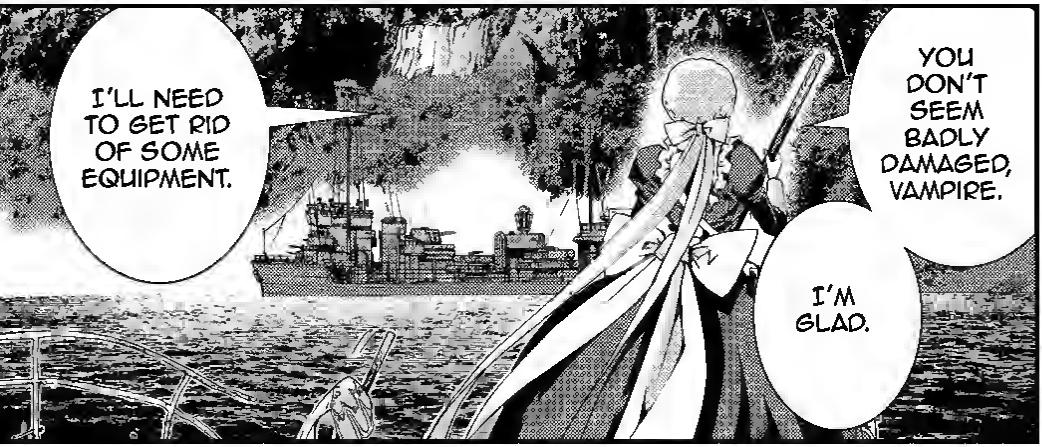
WE CAN PLAY THIS GAME AS LONG AS YOU LIKE...
WELL, TIME BARELY MEANS ANYTHING TO US.

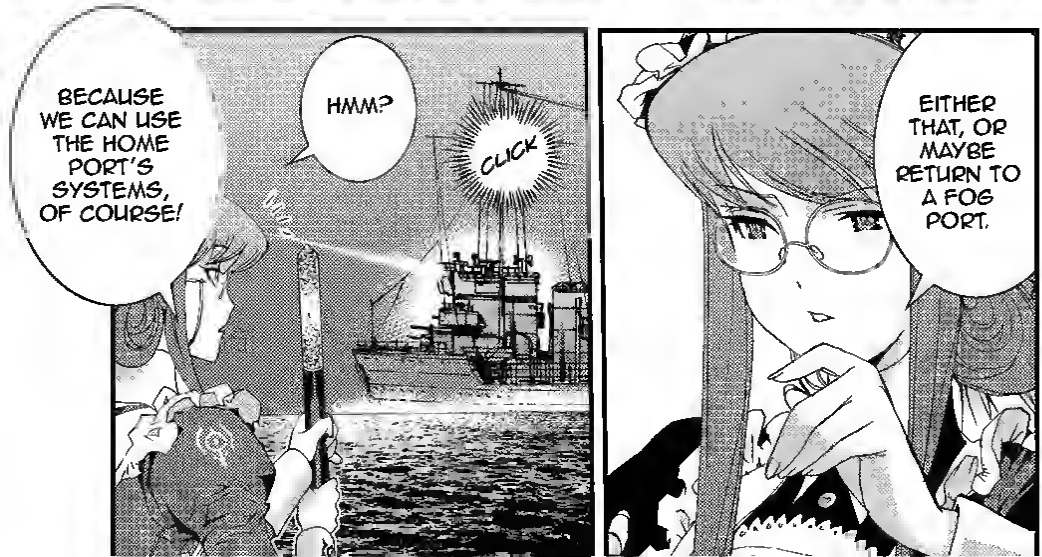

...401.

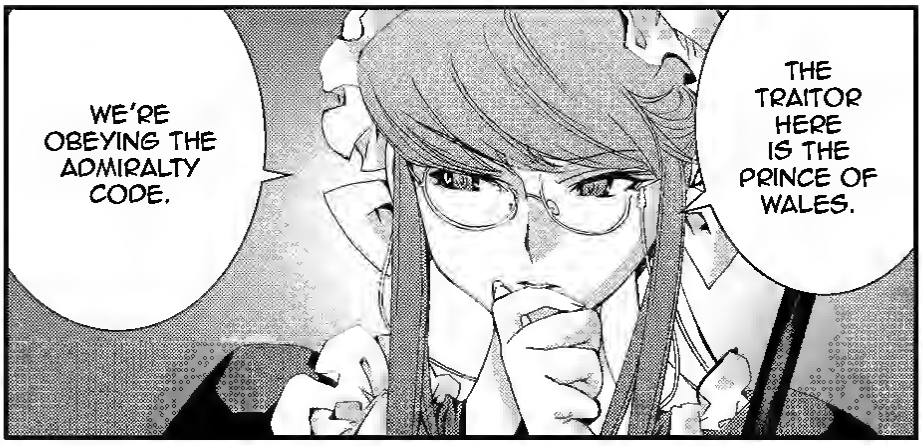

CLICK
CLICK

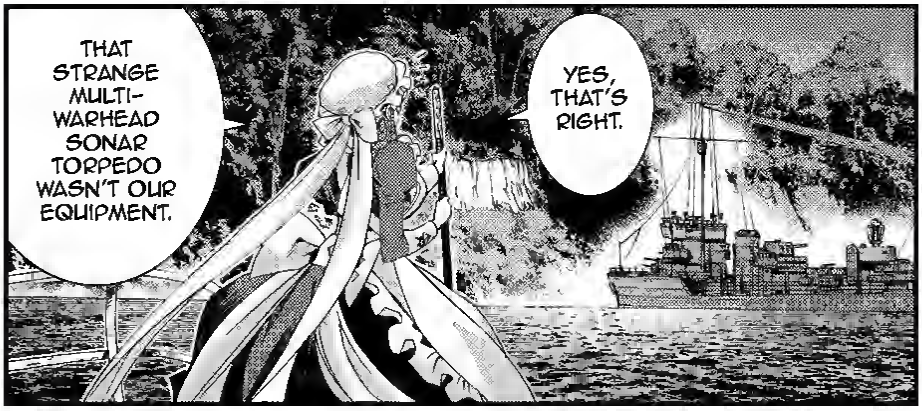


HMMM...

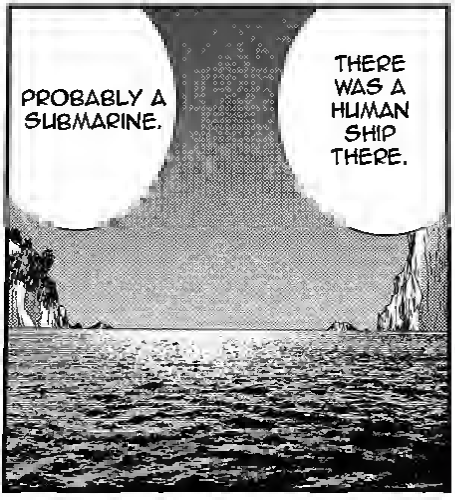

I'LL NEED TO GET RID OF SOME EQUIPMENT.
YOU DON'T SEEM BADLY DAMAGED, VAMPIRE.
I'M GLAD.


BECAUSE WE CAN USE THE HOME PORT'S SYSTEMS, OF COURSE!
HMM?
CLICK
EITHER THAT, OR MAYBE RETURN TO A FOG PORT.

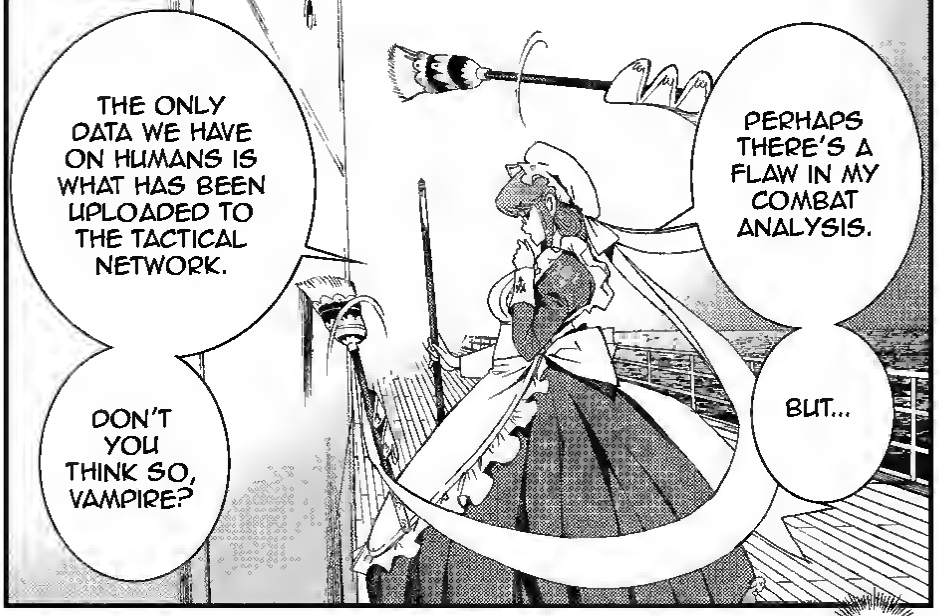

WE'RE OBEYING THE ADMIRALTY CODE.
THE TRAITOR HERE IS THE PRINCE OF WALES.

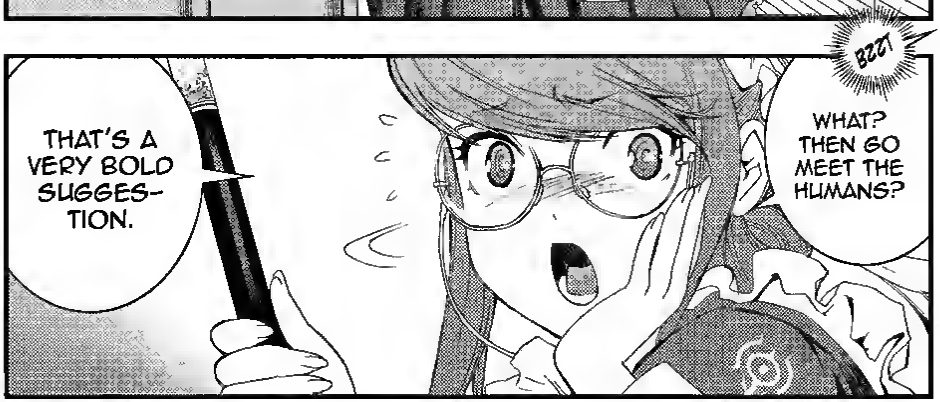

THAT STRANGE MULTI-WARHEAD SONAR TORPEDO WASN'T OUR EQUIPMENT.
YES, THAT'S RIGHT.

...SAVE US, I WONDER?
DID THEY...


PROBABLY A SUBMARINE.
THERE WAS A HUMAN SHIP THERE.

THE HUMANS CONSIDER US ENEMIES.
NO, BUT... THAT'S IMPOSSIBLE.
...AND I'VE NEVER MADE CONTACT WITH ONE.
EVEN I KNOW THAT...
...TO USE THAT WEAPON THERE EXCEPT TO SAVE US.
NO, YOU'RE RIGHT...MY TACTICAL ANALYSES DON'T SHOW ANY REASON...
YOU'RE TAKING THE HUMANS' SIDE?
WHAT?
BZZZT

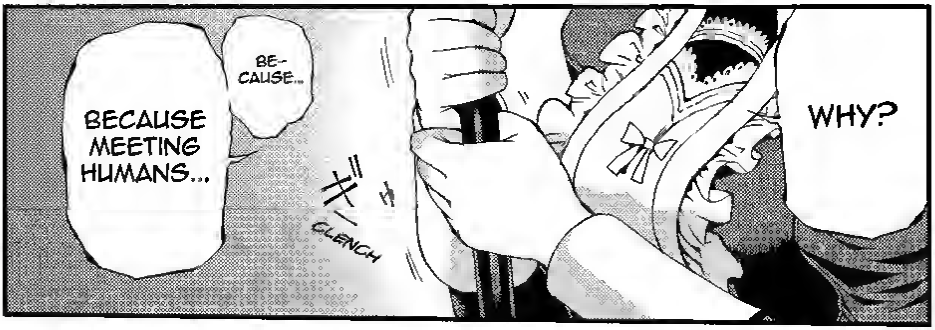

THE ONLY DATA WE HAVE ON HUMANS IS WHAT HAS BEEN UPLOADED TO THE TACTICAL NETWORK.
DON'T YOU THINK SO, VAMPIRE?
PERHAPS THERE'S A FLAW IN MY COMBAT ANALYSIS.
BUT...


THAT'S A VERY BOLD SUGGES-TION.
WHAT? THEN GO MEET THE HUMANS?
ぽかぁ
228

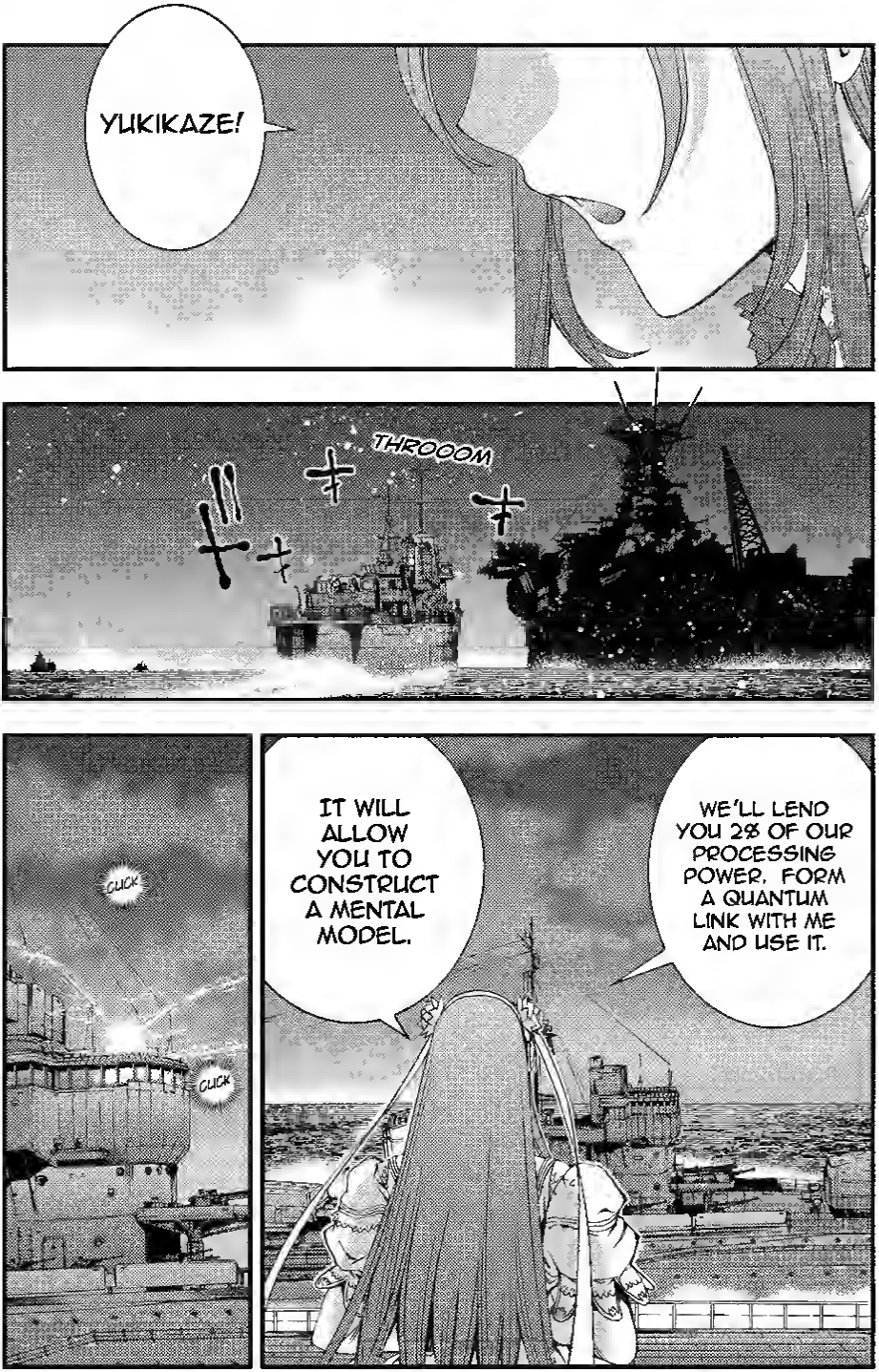
I TAKE BACK WHAT I SAID ABOUT YOUR DAMAGE BEING MINOR.
THERE'S A SERIOUS FLAW IN YOUR PRO-CESSOR UNIT.
ぷんすか!
HMPH!
ISN'T THAT A LITTLE ODD?

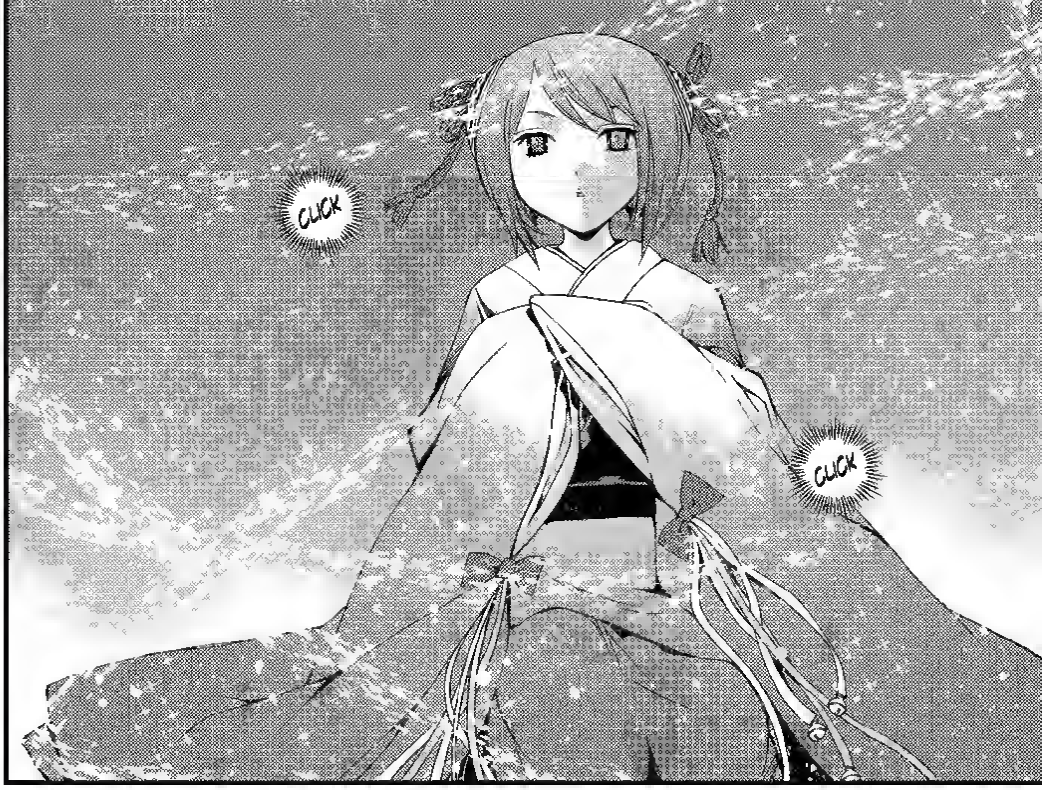
I ALWAYS KNEW YOU HAD A FOUL MOUTH, BUT I DIDN'T KNOW IT WAS THAT BAD!
OH MY! HOW CAN YOU SAY SUCH A THING?
BZZT
WHAT? IF YOU WEREN'T DEFECTIVE, YOU NEVER WOULD'VE FOLLOWED ME IN THE FIRST PLACE, GIVEN MY CURRENT DISADVANTAGE?
BZZT
THIS IS GOING TO BE A LONG VOYAGE.
HOW AWFUL...
...THE PRINCE OF WALES AND THE REST OF THE FLEET MIGHT COME BACK.
CLICK
"SHUT UP AND DECIDE OUR NEXT ACTION"?
WELL, YOU'RE RIGHT. IF WE SPEND ANY MORE TIME LOITERING HERE...

ABSO-
LUTELY
NOT!
WHAP
WHA—?!
NO!
BZZT
WHAP
BUT
THERE'S
NO WAY I'M
MEETING
WITH ANY
HUMANS!
BZZT
WHAP


BE-
CAUSE...
BECAUSE
MEETING
HUMANS...
CLENCH
WHY?

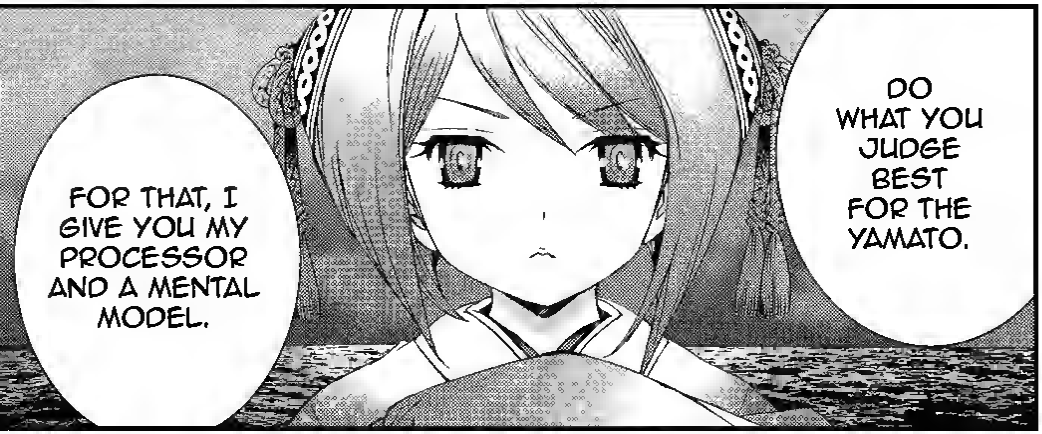
...
...SCARES
ME.

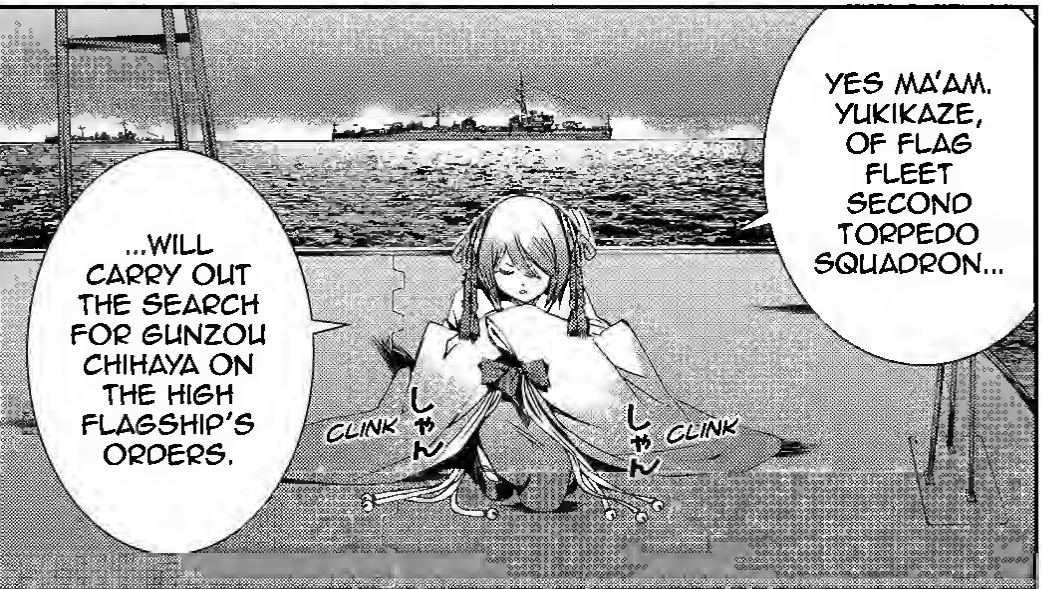

YUKIKAZE!
THROOOM
CLICK
CLICK
IT WILL ALLOW YOU TO CONSTRUCT A MENTAL MODEL.
WE'LL LEND YOU 28 OF OUR PROCESSING POWER. FORM A QUANTUM LINK WITH ME AND USE IT.

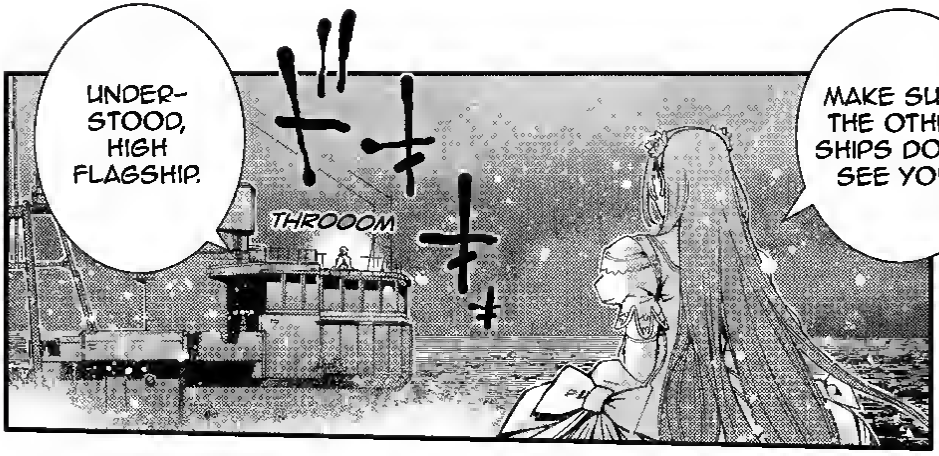

CLICK
CLICK

FIRST PATROL FLEET FLAGSHIP KONGOU IS PRESENTLY EXECUTING AN OFFENSIVE OPERATION AGAINST THE 401 INSIDE ITS PATROL ZONE IN THE EASTERN THEATRE.
BUT GUNZOU CHIHAYA, THE CAPTAIN OF THE 401, AND THE MENTAL MODEL OF THE LARGE BATTLESHIP HYUUGA HAVE VANISHED FROM THEIR BOAT.
I ORDER YOU TO FIND THEM.

NORMALLY THIS MISSION WOULD BE GIVEN TO 400 AND 402...
...BUT THEY'RE ON ANOTHER MISSION, AND CANNOT DO THIS.
SO I ORDER YOU, GIVEN YOUR TALENTS AS A DESTROYER.

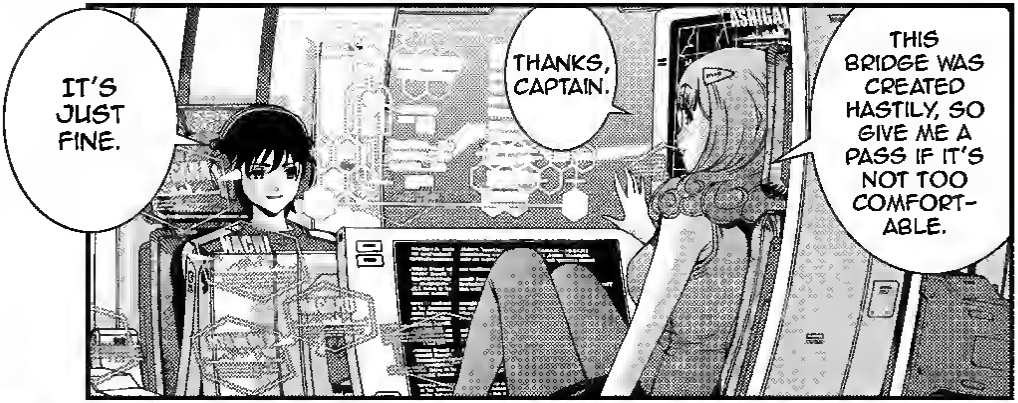

DO WHAT YOU JUDGE BEST FOR THE YAMATO.
FOR THAT, I GIVE YOU MY PROCESSOR AND A MENTAL MODEL.

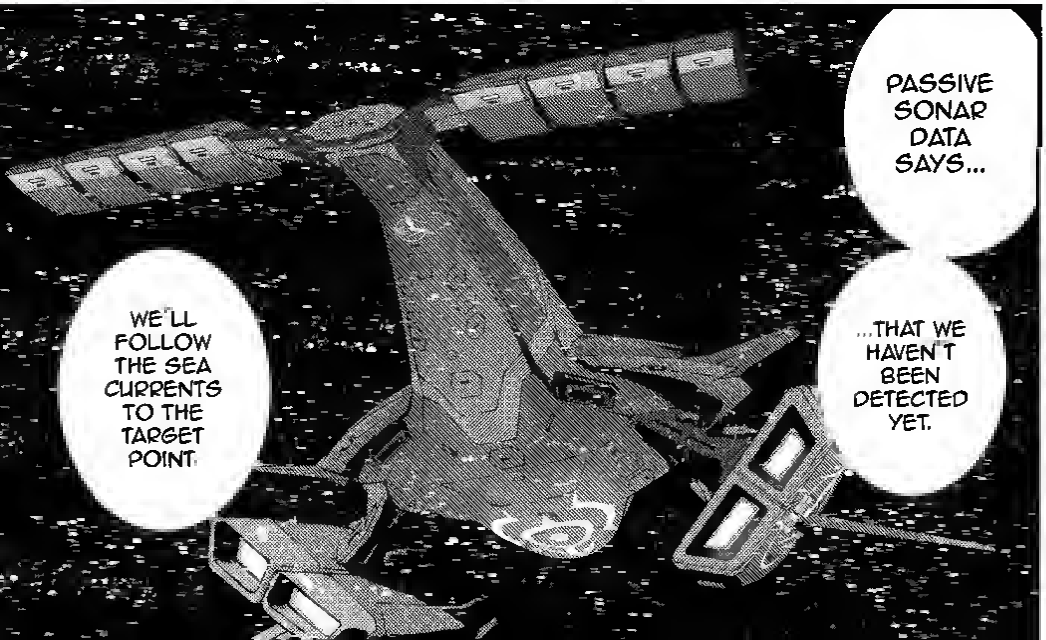

YES MA'AM. YUKIKAZE, OF FLAG FLEET SECOND TORPEDO SQUADRON...
...WILL CARRY OUT THE SEARCH FOR GUNZOU CHIHAYA ON THE HIGH FLAGSHIP'S ORDERS.
CLINK
しゃん
しゃん
CLINK



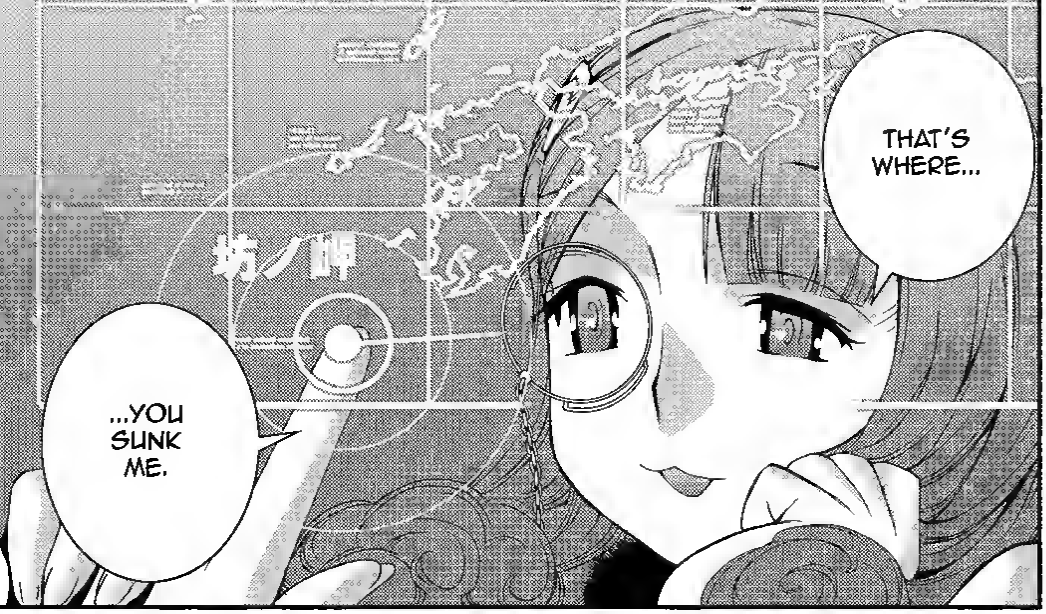
Depth:048 / END

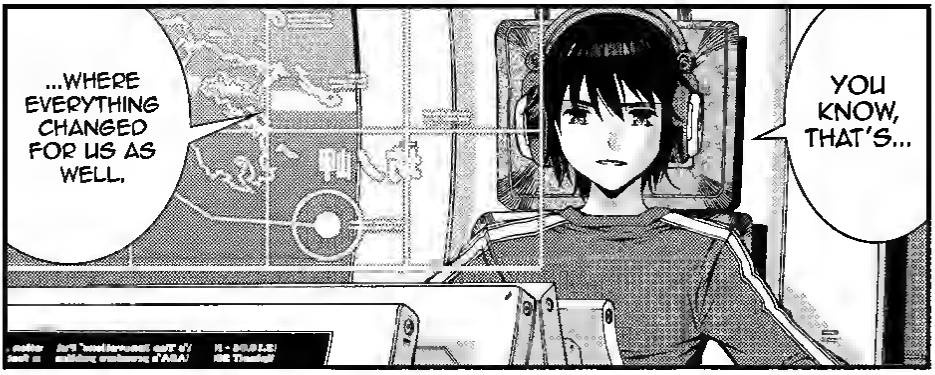
MATSUSHIMA INTERNAL LIFE SUPPORT SYSTEMS FUNCTIONING PROPERLY.
CLICK
CLICK
CLICK
Heart rate 69
Blood flow...Fine
Breathing...Fine
Appetite...Fine


IT'S JUST FINE.
THANKS, CAPTAIN.
THIS BRIDGE WAS CREATED HASTILY, SO GIVE ME A PASS IF IT'S NOT TOO COMFORT-ABLE.


PASSIVE SONAR DATA SAYS...
...THAT WE HAVEN'T BEEN DETECTED YET.
WE'LL FOLLOW THE SEA CURRENTS TO THE TARGET POINT.

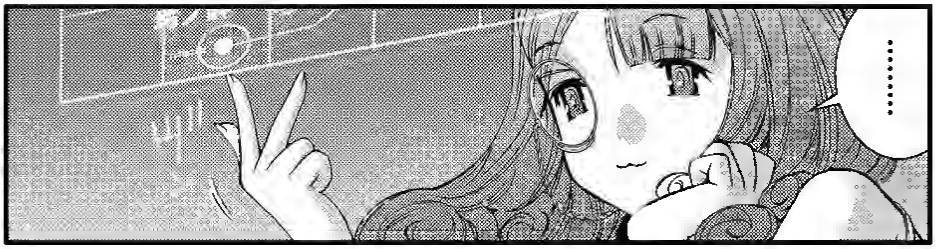
BETWEEN THE UNDER-WATER TERAIN, THE THERMO-CLINE...
...AND THE FACT THAT THEIR SEARCH PATTERNS ARE SO SIMPLE...
...WE SHOULD BE ABLE TO EVADE THE FORWARD FLEETS ABOVE US.
IT'S PROBABLY ASHIGARA AND NACHI...
...RUNNING THE SEARCH ABOVE.
THEY'VE GOT SO LITTLE CREATIVITY THAT IT'S HARD TO BELIEVE THEY HAVE MENTAL MODELS AT ALL.
CLICK
CLICK
GWREE
BEEP
...WE'LL ACTIVATE OUR ENGINES AT THIS POINT, AND HEAD TOWARDS CAPE BOU.
IN AN HOUR...


THAT'S WHERE...
...YOU SUNK ME.


YOU KNOW, THAT'S...
...WHERE EVERYTHING CHANGED FOR US AS WELL.

CHANGED?
WE...
.....

I WAS GETTING DISILLUSIONED ABOUT HOW NOTHING WE DID AFFECTED ANYTHING.
CREAK
WELL, I...

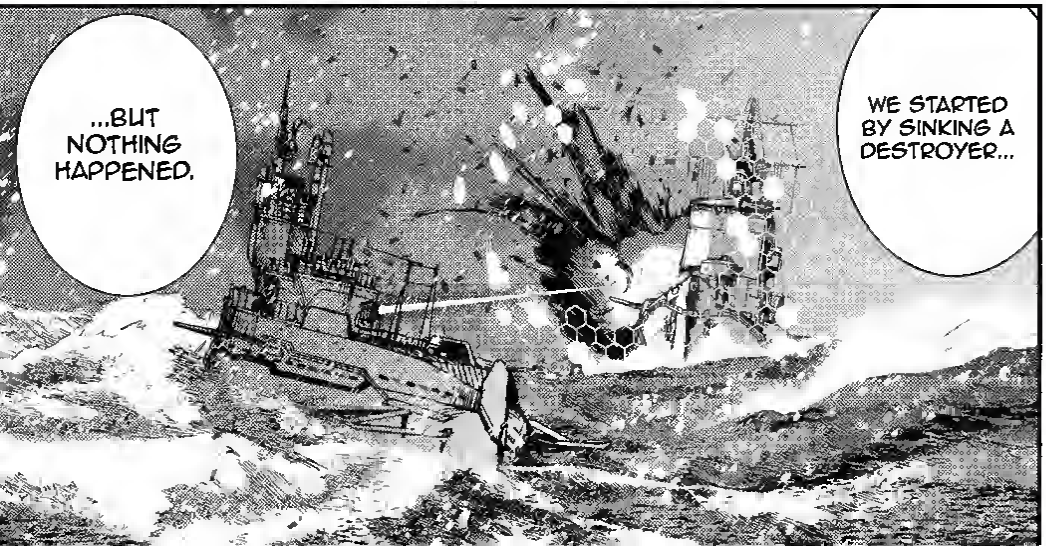

.....

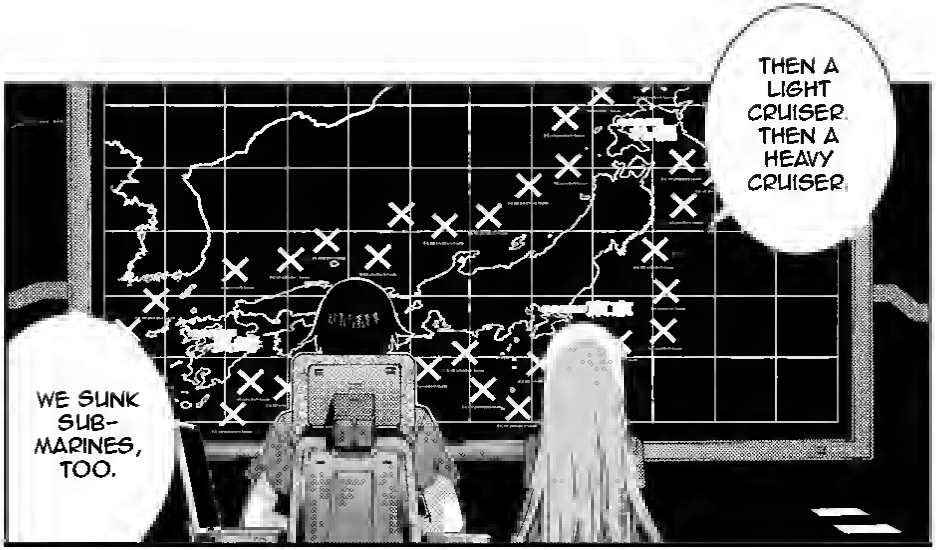
...YOU WOULD'VE BEEN SO EXCITED YOU'D THROW A PARTY.
I FIGURED THAT AFTER YOU SUNK ME...

IT'S TRUE.
THIS IS THE FIRST TIME WE'VE TALKED ABOUT ANYTHING LIKE THIS.

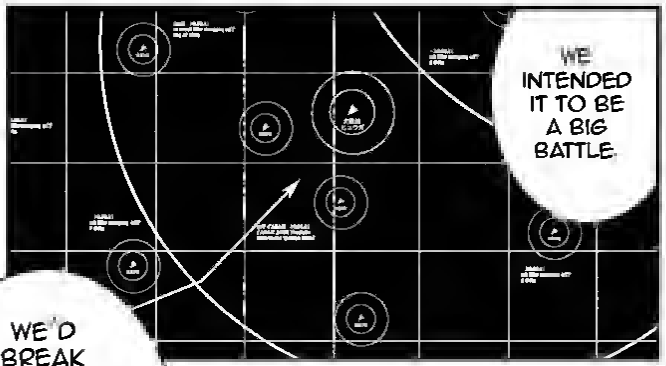
...THAT IF WE SUNK A FOG SHIP, IF WE SHOWED WE COULD DO IT, THE WORLD WOULD SHIFT SOMEHOW.
WE WERE EXCITED, SURE.
WE BELIEVED...

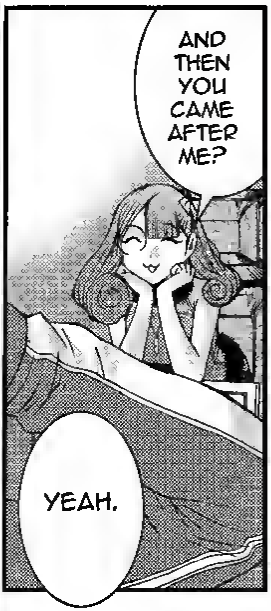
AT FIRST IT WAS JUST ME AND IONA.
EVEN ABOARD THE 401...
...OUR RESOURCES WERE LIMITED.

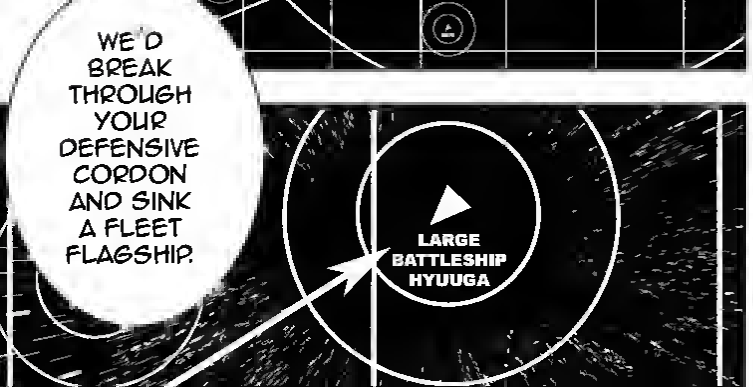

...BUT NOTHING HAPPENED.
WE STARTED BY SINKING A DESTROYER...


THEN A LIGHT CRUISER. THEN A HEAVY CRUISER.
WE SUNK SUB-MARINES, TOO.

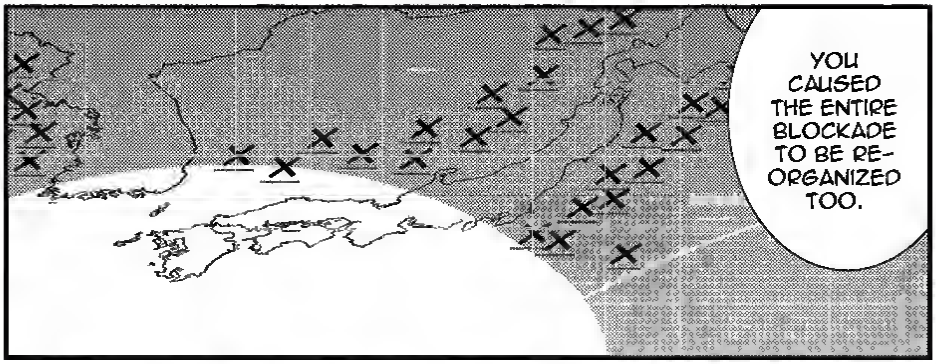
BUT THE WORLD DIDN'T CHANGE AT ALL.


WE INTENDED IT TO BE A BIG BATTLE.

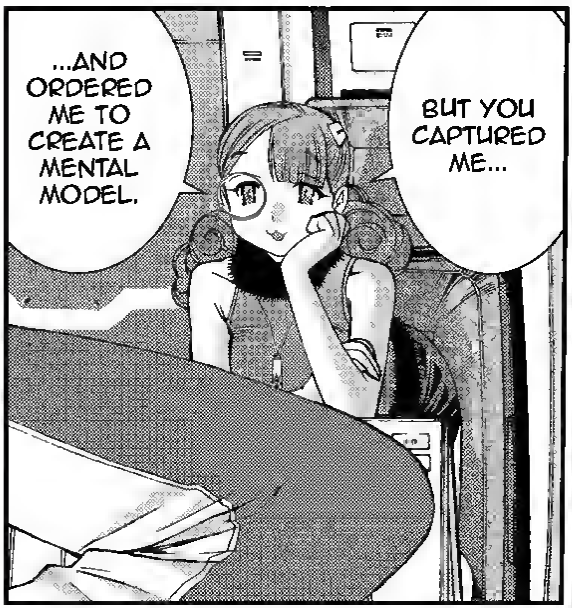

AND THEN YOU CAME AFTER ME?
YEAH.


WE'D BREAK THROUGH YOUR DEFENSIVE CORDON AND SINK A FLEET FLAGSHIP.
LARGE BATTLESHIP HYUUGA

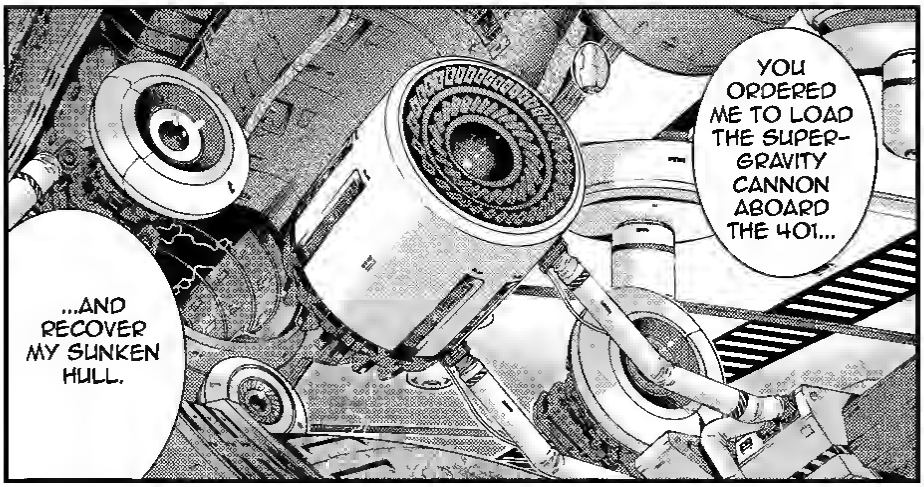
WE THOUGHT IT WAS THE ONLY WAY...
...TO SHOW THE WORLD
THAT'S RIGHT.
AND YOU DID IT.
AND BY SINKING ME, THE FLAGSHIP...
...YOU KNOCKED OUT THE ENTIRE SECOND FLEET.

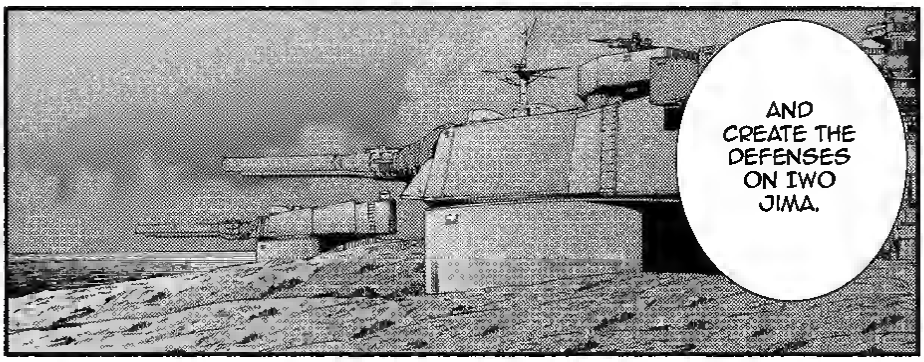

YOU CAUSED THE ENTIRE BLOCKADE TO BE RE-ORGANIZED TOO.

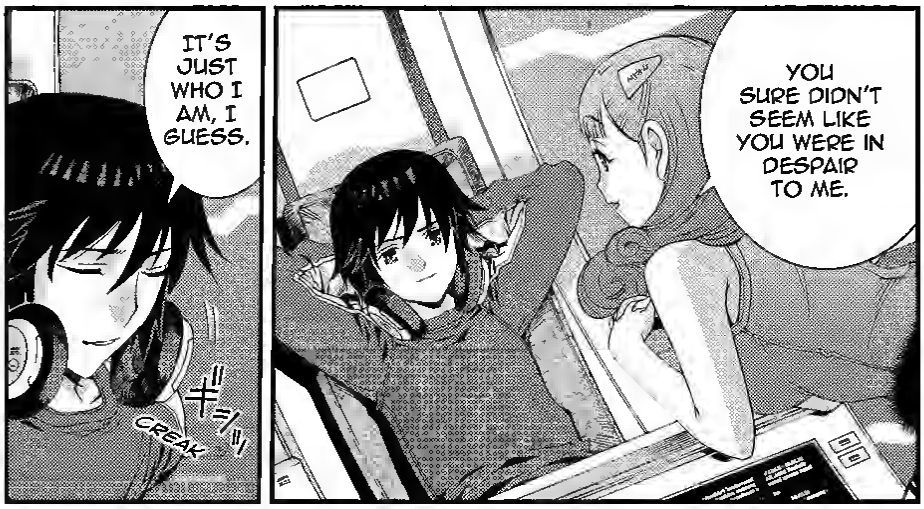
BUT STILL, NOTHING CHANGED.
WE STILL COULDN'T...
...BRING A NEW WIND TO THE WORLD.


BUT YOU CAPTURED ME...
...AND ORDERED ME TO CREATE A MENTAL MODEL.

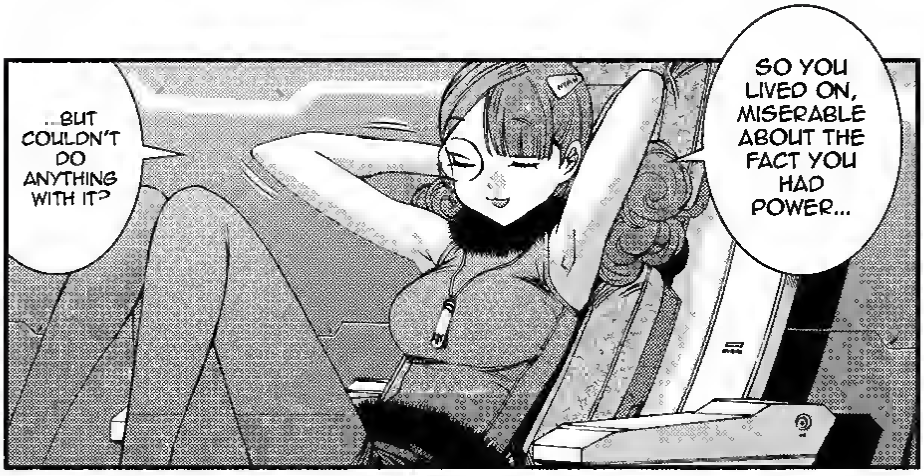
ALL THAT HAPPENED...
...WAS THAT WE NOW GOT MORE JOBS.


YOU ORDERED ME TO LOAD THE SUPER-GRAVITY CANNON ABOARD THE 401...
...AND RECOVER MY SUNKEN HULL.

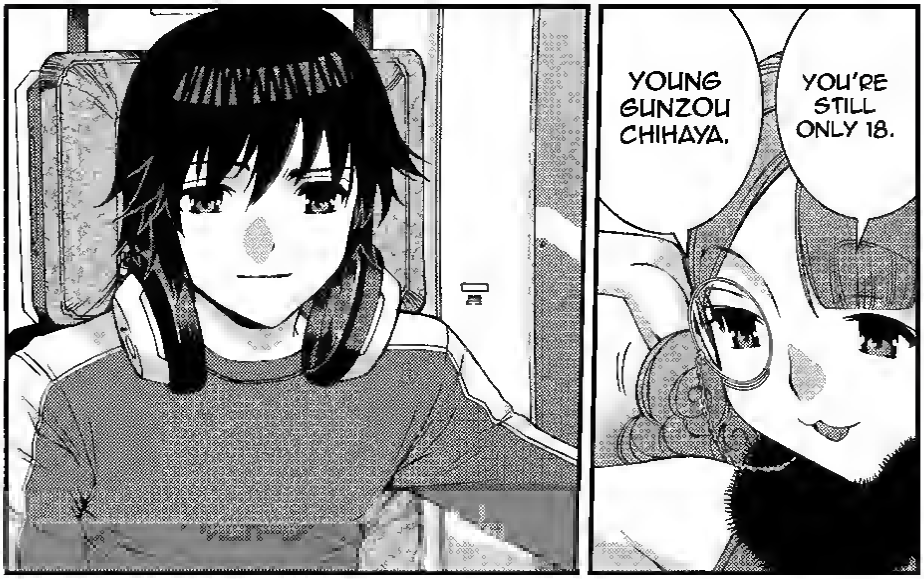

AND CREATE THE DEFENSES ON IWO JIMA.


IT'S JUST WHO I AM, I GUESS.
CREAK
YOU SURE DIDN'T SEEM LIKE YOU WERE IN DESPAIR TO ME.

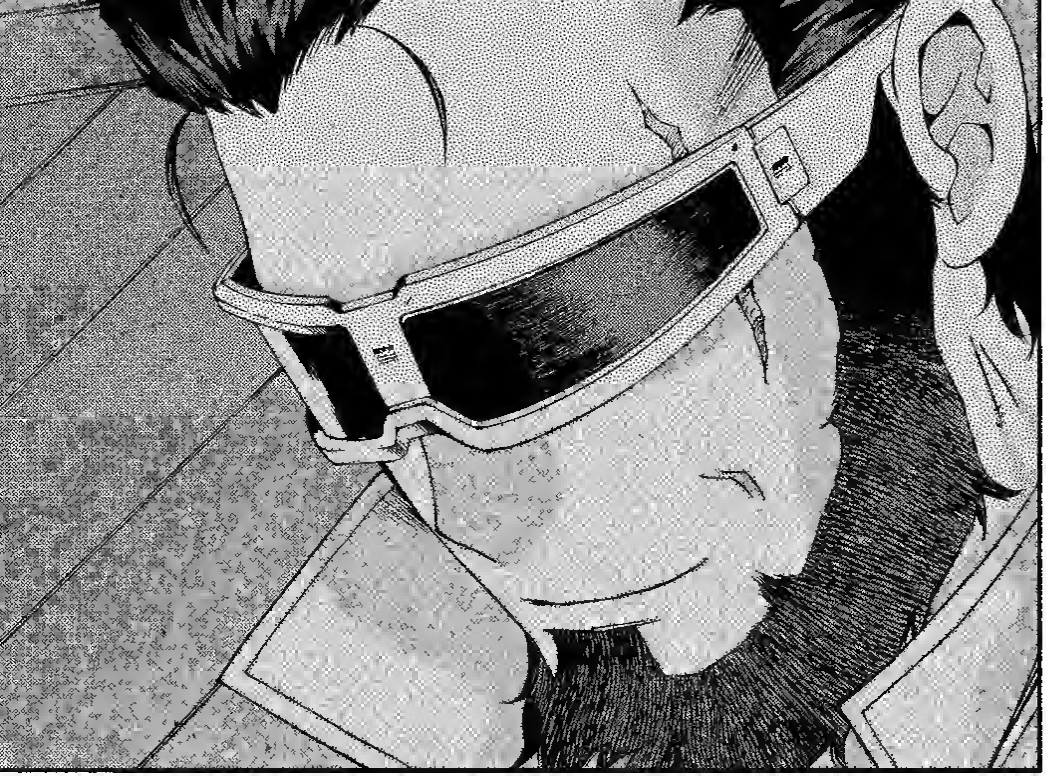
AND I COULDN'T JUST DO NOTHING.
I DIDN'T KNOW WHAT WAS GOING TO HAPPEN...
...BUT I WANTED TO BE AS READY AS I COULD.
BUT...
...I COULDN'T THINK OF ANYTHING ELSE TO DO.
I THOUGHT I WAS GOING TO SPEND THE REST OF MY LIFE...
...JUST WANDERING THE SEAS.


...BUT COULDN'T DO ANYTHING WITH IT?
SO YOU LIVED ON, MISERABLE ABOUT THE FACT YOU HAD POWER...

PRETTY CHILDISH.
YEAH...

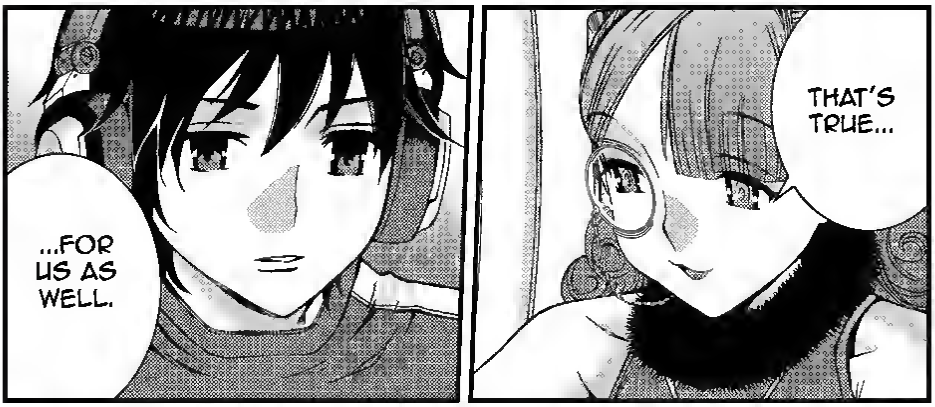

YOUNG GUNZOU CHIHAYA.
YOU'RE STILL ONLY 18.

A KID... WHEN YOU FORCE HIM TO REALIZE THAT HE'S A KID...
...HE GETS IRRITATED AND SULKY.
AND ADULTS AREN'T LIKE THAT?
ADULTS...
I DON'T KNOW.



I STILL...
...DON'T REALLY KNOW.

THERE'S ALL KINDS OF THINGS I DON'T KNOW.
YEAH.
CLICK
69
Blood flow
Breathing
Appetite
Fine
CLICK
SO THERE ARE THINGS EVEN YOU DON'T KNOW, HUH?

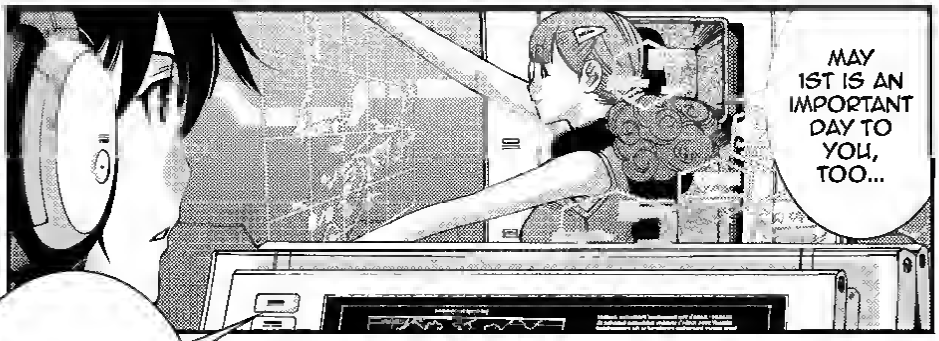

...FOR US AS WELL.
THAT'S TRUE...

"WHY WERE WE REBOOTED INCOM-PLETE?"
COME TO THINK OF IT, THERE WAS SOMETHING YOU SAID SHORTLY AFTER YOU GOT A MENTAL MODEL.
BEEP
BEEP

OF COURSE, WE ONLY STARTED THINKING ABOUT IT AFTER WE GOT MENTAL MODELS...
YES, IT'S A QUESTION EVERYONE IN THE FOG HAS ON THEIR MIND.
...SO IT HASN'T BEEN ALL THAT LONG.
.....!?
...RE-BOOTED?
CREAK
YOU FOG BOOTED UP ONCE BEFORE?
SO THEN...
...DID YOU REVEAL YOUR-SELVES TO HUMANITY BEFORE?

WHO KNOWS?
ACTUALLY, WE'D LIKE TO ASK YOU.
HAS HUMANITY EVER SEEN US BEFORE?
DO YOU HAVE ANY CLUE THAT SHOWS WHEN YOU BOOTED FOR THE FIRST TIME?
WE KNOW WHEN IT WAS.
WHEN WAS IT?
BY YOUR CALENDAR, IT WAS 1945 A.D.
THE FIRST OF MAY.

1945...
MAY 1ST...

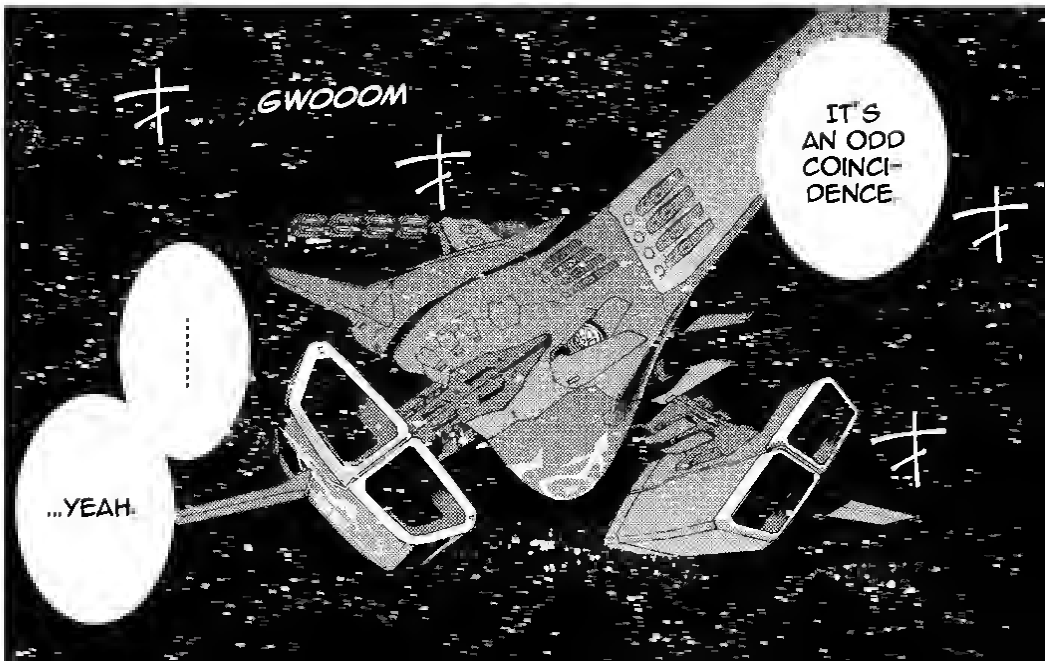

MAY 1ST IS AN IMPORTANT DAY TO YOU, TOO...

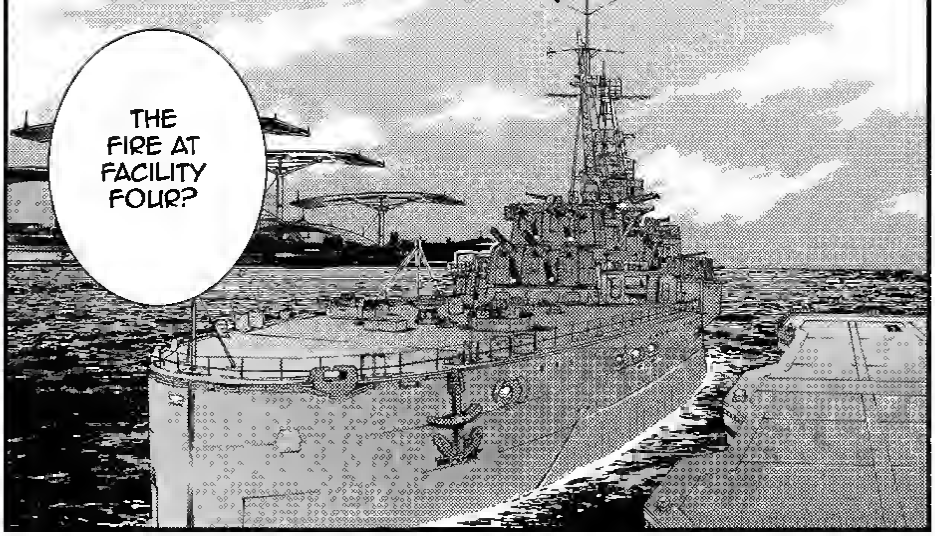
...ISN'T THAT RIGHT?
Facility 4
第4施設

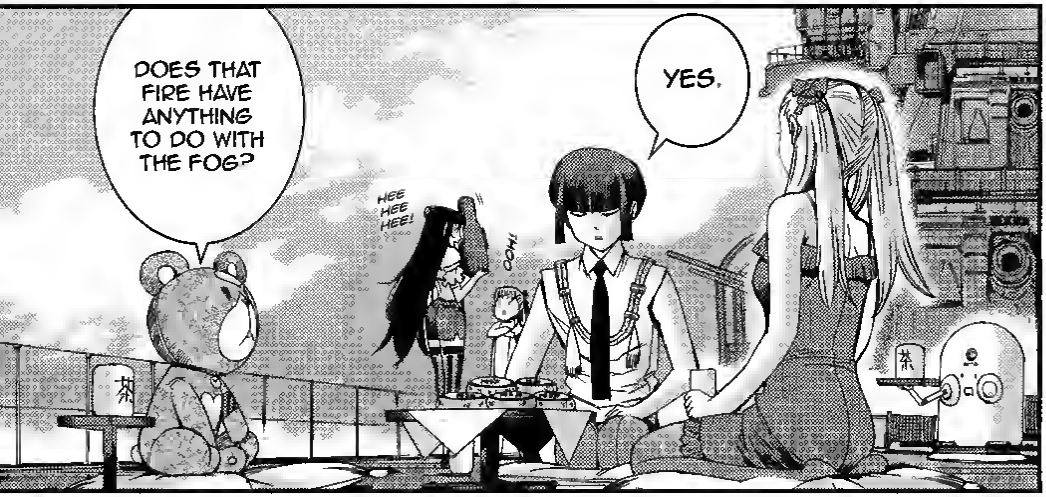
.....
YOU KNEW...?

I APOLOGIZE IF THAT OFFENDED YOU.
I STILL DON'T UNDERSTAND THE MEANING, OR THE PAIN, OF LOSING SOMETHING IMPORTANT.
YES, I'VE HEARD ABOUT IT. IS IT A TOUCHY SUBJECT FOR HUMANS?

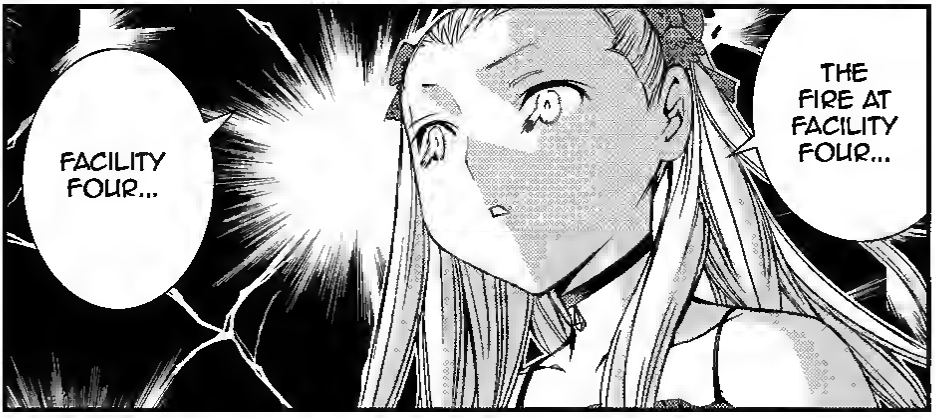
MAY...
...1ST, HUH?
NO...


GWOOOM
IT'S AN ODD COINCI-DENCE
...YEAH.

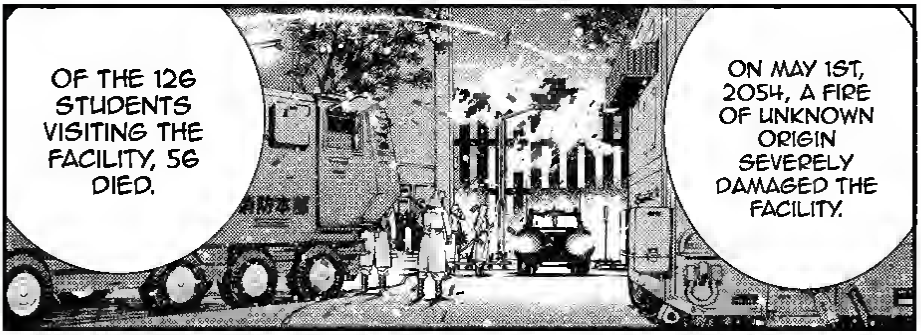

THE FIRE AT FACILITY FOUR?


DOES THAT FIRE HAVE ANYTHING TO DO WITH THE FOG?
YES.
HEE HEE HEE!
HOH

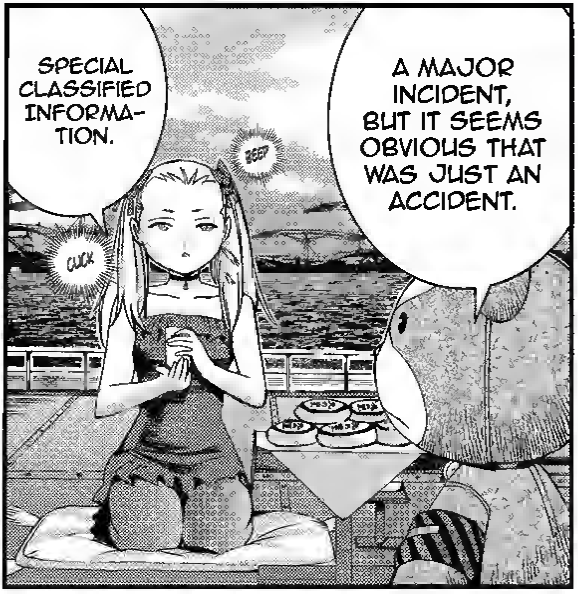
Cups: 'Tea'

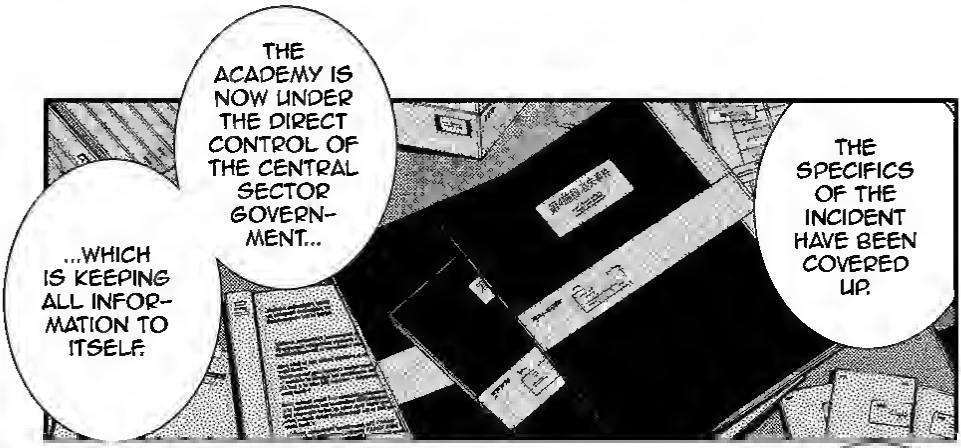

FACILITY FOUR...
THE FIRE AT FACILITY FOUR...

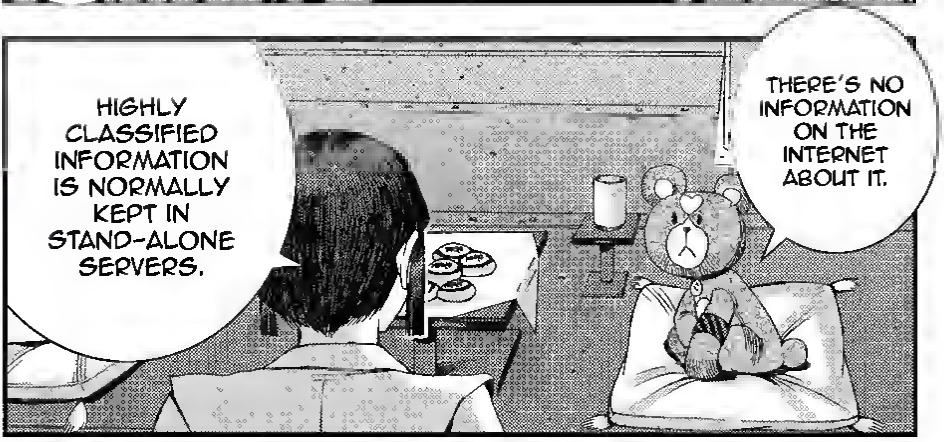
FOUR STORIES ABOVE GROUND, EIGHTEEN UNDERNEATH. FORMERLY A JMSDF SUBMARINE DOCK.
A PART OF THE MARINE TECHNICAL ACADEMY.

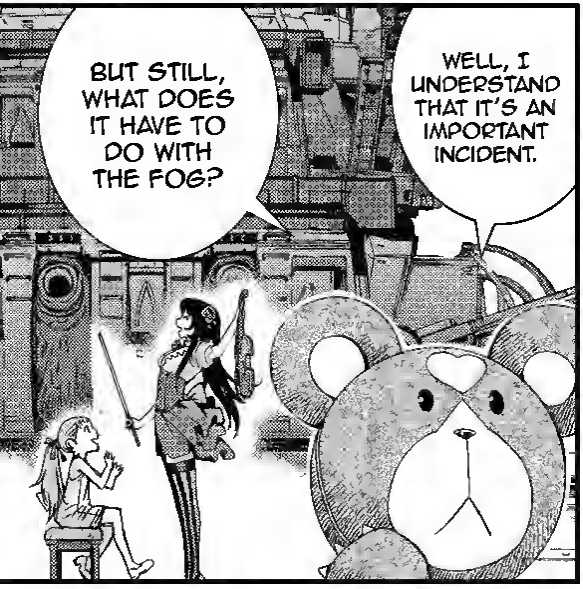

OF THE 126 STUDENTS VISITING THE FACILITY, 56 DIED.
ON MAY 1ST, 2054, A FIRE OF UNKNOWN ORIGIN SEVERELY DAMAGED THE FACILITY.

THAT'S IT.
WHAT?


SPECIAL CLASSIFIED INFORMATION.
A MAJOR INCIDENT, BUT IT SEEMS OBVIOUS THAT WAS JUST AN ACCIDENT.
BEEP
CLICK

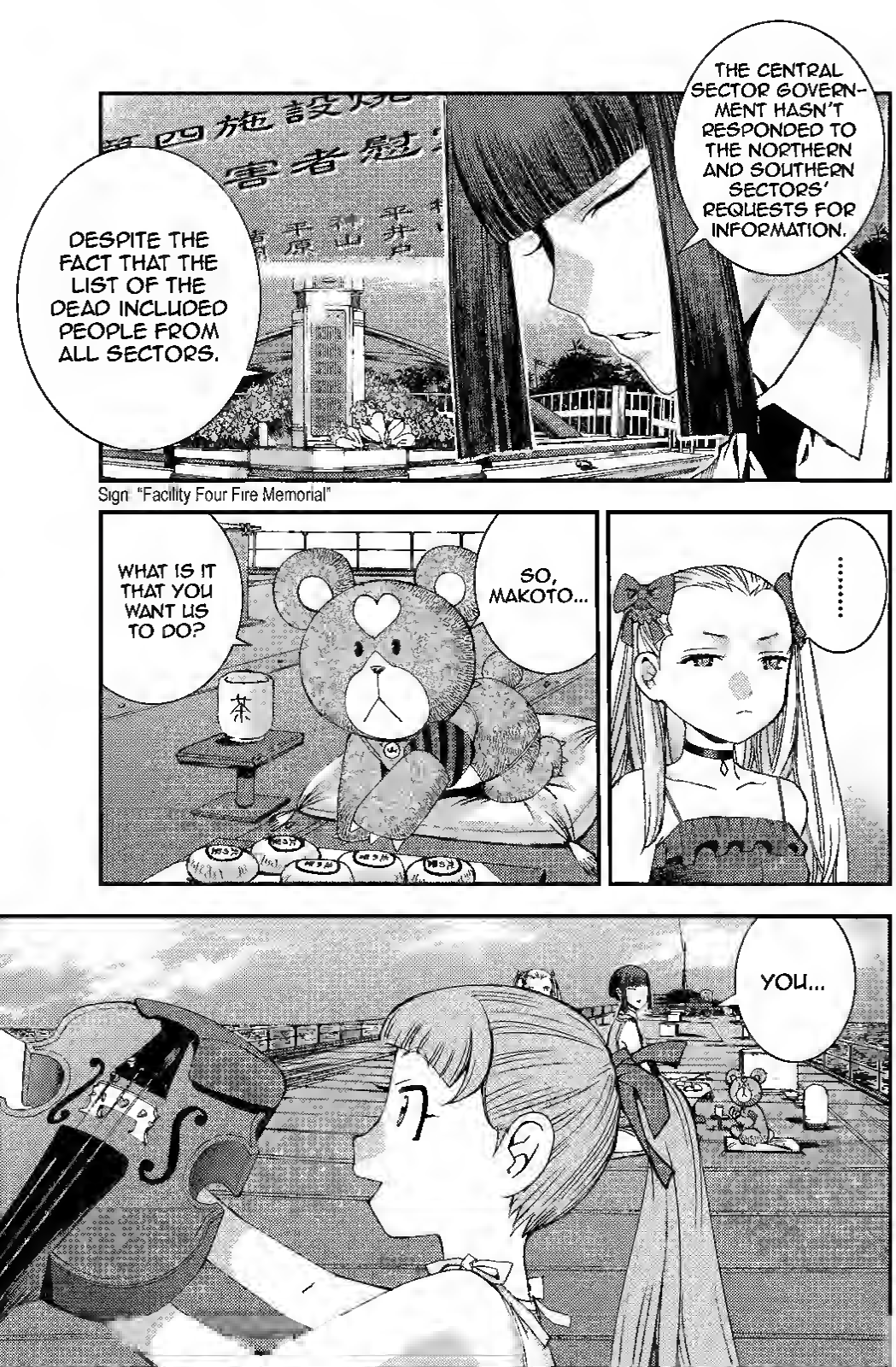

THE ACADEMY IS NOW UNDER THE DIRECT CONTROL OF THE CENTRAL SECTOR GOVERN-MENT...
...WHICH IS KEEPING ALL INFOR-MATION TO ITSELF.
THE SPECIFICS OF THE INCIDENT HAVE BEEN COVERED UP.

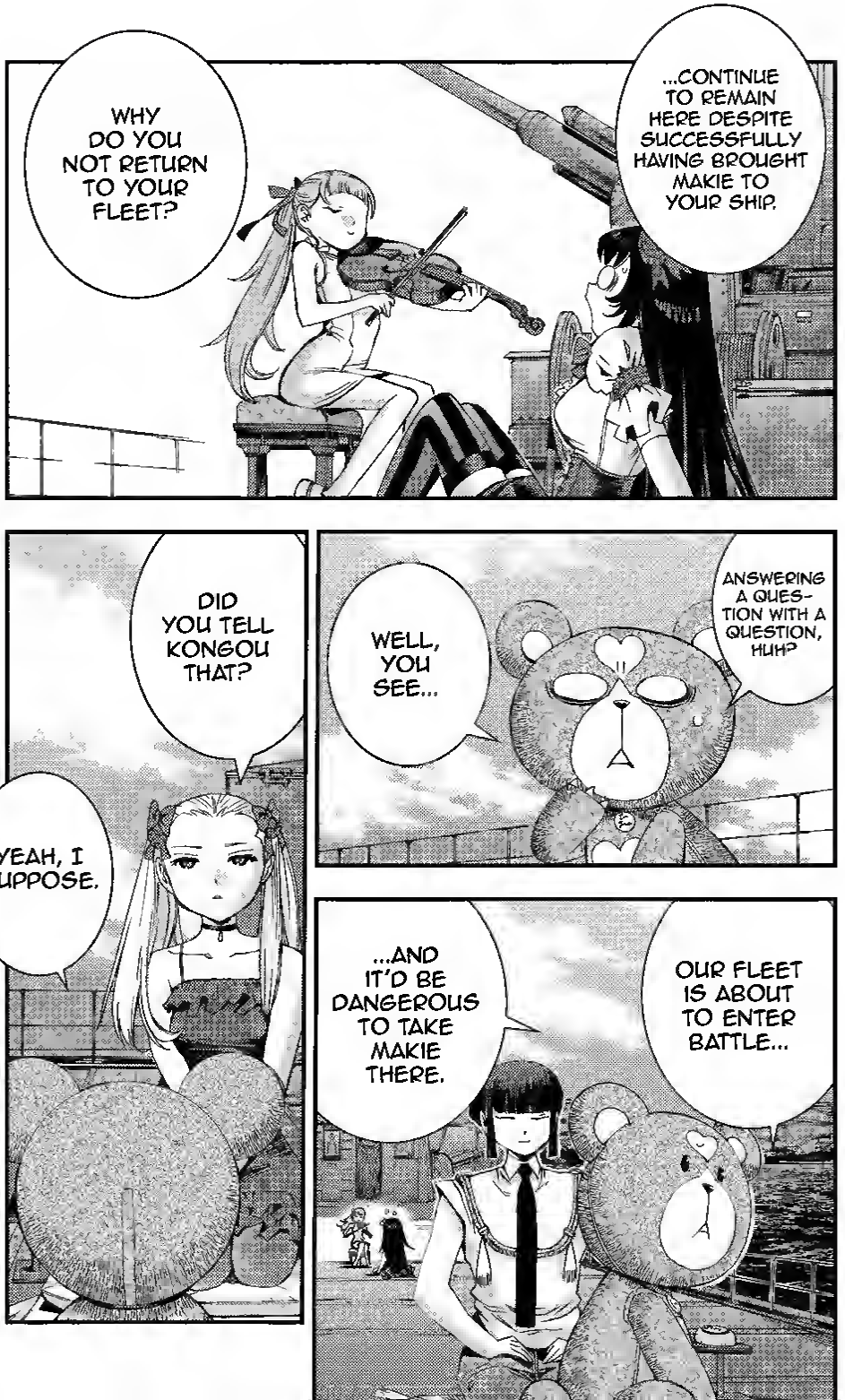

HIGHLY CLASSIFIED INFORMATION IS NORMALLY KEPT IN STAND-ALONE SERVERS.
THERE'S NO INFORMATION ON THE INTERNET ABOUT IT.

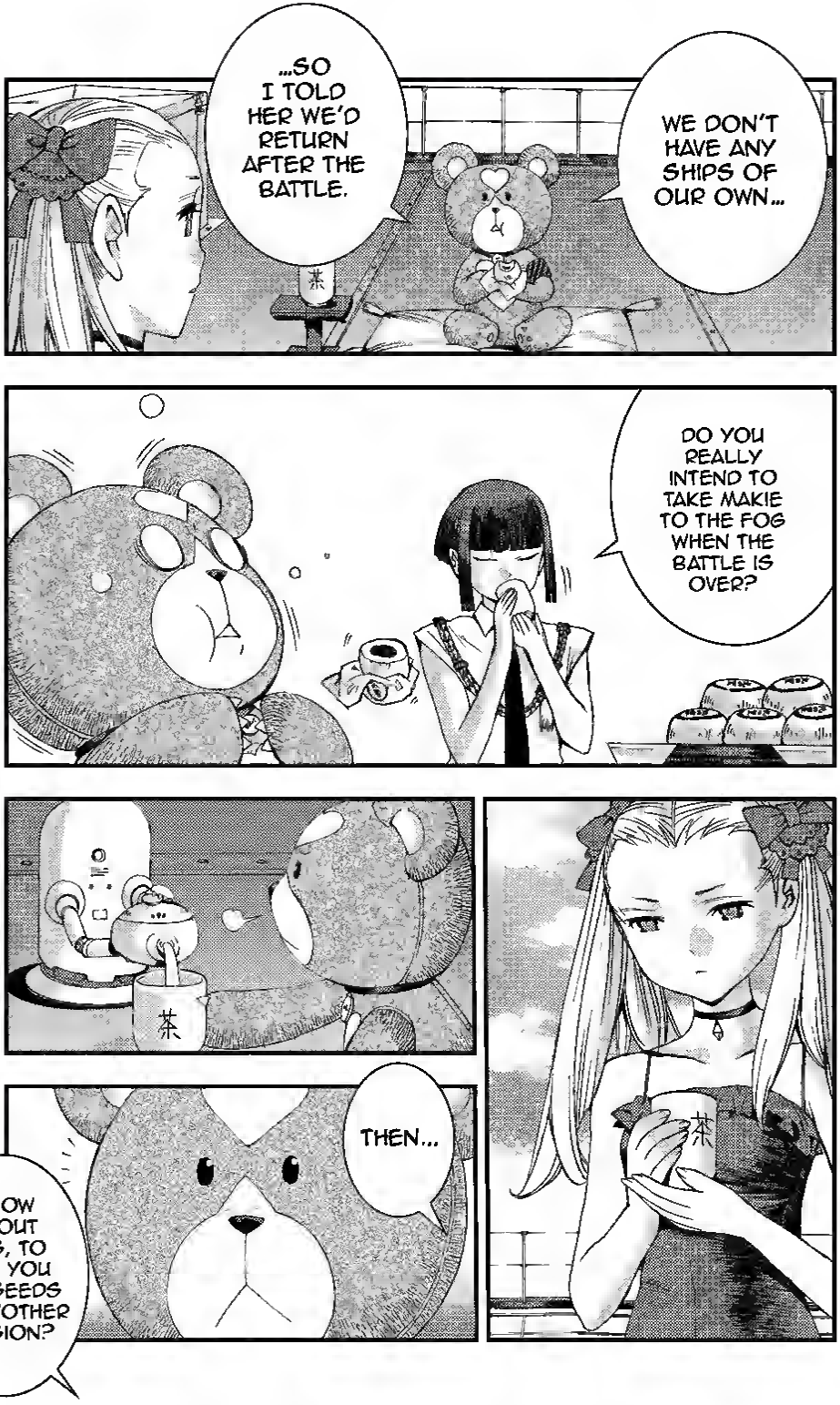

BUT STILL, WHAT DOES IT HAVE TO DO WITH THE FOG?
WELL, I UNDERSTAND THAT IT'S AN IMPORTANT INCIDENT.

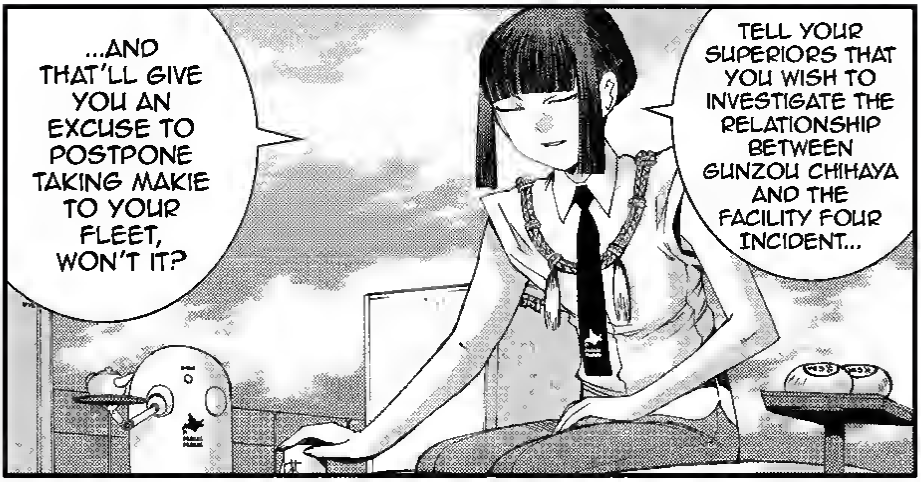
YOU HAVE TO GO TO THE FACILITY WHERE THE SERVER IS HELD TO SEE THEM.
THE NORTHERN SECTOR DOES THE SAME THING.

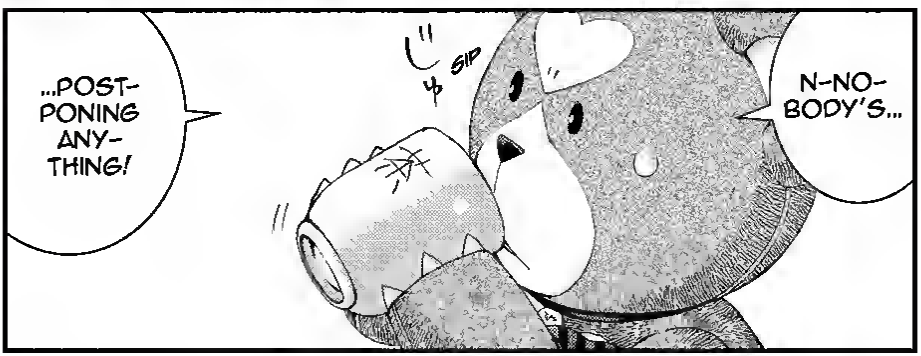
THE 401 APPEARED BEFORE GUNZOU CHIHAYA AND THEY RAN.
IT WAS SHORTLY AFTER THIS THAT WE STARTED TO FIGHT BACK AGAINST YOU.
YES, ONCE AGAIN.
GUNZOU CHIHAYA AGAIN, HUH?
BUT DOESN'T IT SEEM MORE LIKELY THAT IT ISN'T?
OF COURSE.
BUT ISN'T THERE A POSSIBILITY IT'S A COIN-CIDENCE?
GRR...

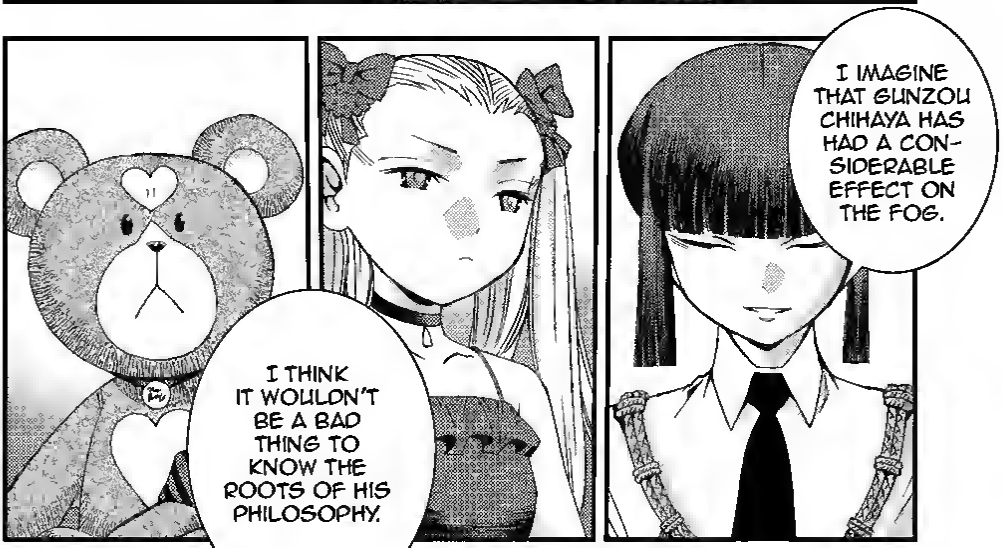

THE CENTRAL SECTOR GOVERNMENT HASN'T RESPONDED TO THE NORTHERN AND SOUTHERN SECTORS' REQUESTS FOR INFORMATION.
DESPITE THE FACT THAT THE LIST OF THE DEAD INCLUDED PEOPLE FROM ALL SECTORS.
Sign: "Facility Four Fire Memorial"
SO, MAKOTO...
WHAT IS IT THAT YOU WANT US TO DO?
茶
.....
YOU...

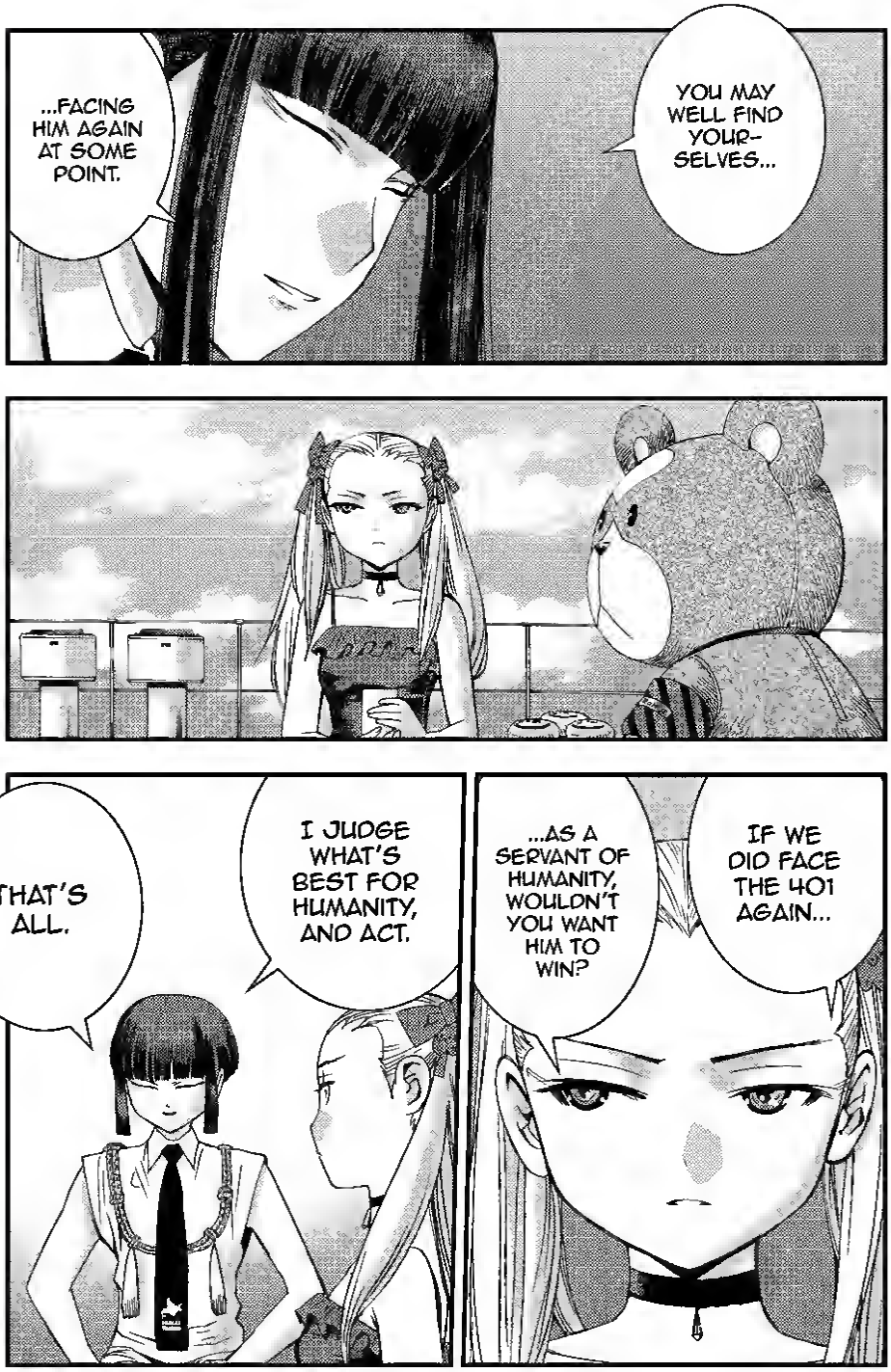

WHY DO YOU NOT RETURN TO YOUR FLEET?
...CONTINUE TO REMAIN HERE DESPITE SUCCESSFULLY HAVING BROUGHT MAKIE TO YOUR SHIP.
DID YOU TELL KONGOU THAT?
YEAH, I SUPPOSE.
WELL, YOU SEE...
ANSWERING A QUES-TION WITH A QUESTION, HUH?
...AND IT'D BE DANGEROUS TO TAKE MAKIE THERE.
OUR FLEET IS ABOUT TO ENTER BATTLE...


...SO I TOLD HER WE'D RETURN AFTER THE BATTLE.
WE DON'T HAVE ANY SHIPS OF OUR OWN...
DO YOU REALLY INTEND TO TAKE MAKIE TO THE FOG WHEN THE BATTLE IS OVER?
THEN...
...HOW ABOUT THIS, TO GIVE YOU THE SEEDS OF ANOTHER MISSION?


...AND THAT'LL GIVE YOU AN EXCUSE TO POSTPONE TAKING MAKIE TO YOUR FLEET, WON'T IT?
TELL YOUR SUPERIORS THAT YOU WISH TO INVESTIGATE THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN GUNZOU CHIHAYA AND THE FACILITY FOUR INCIDENT...


...POST-PONING ANY-THING!
SIP
N-NO-BODY'S...

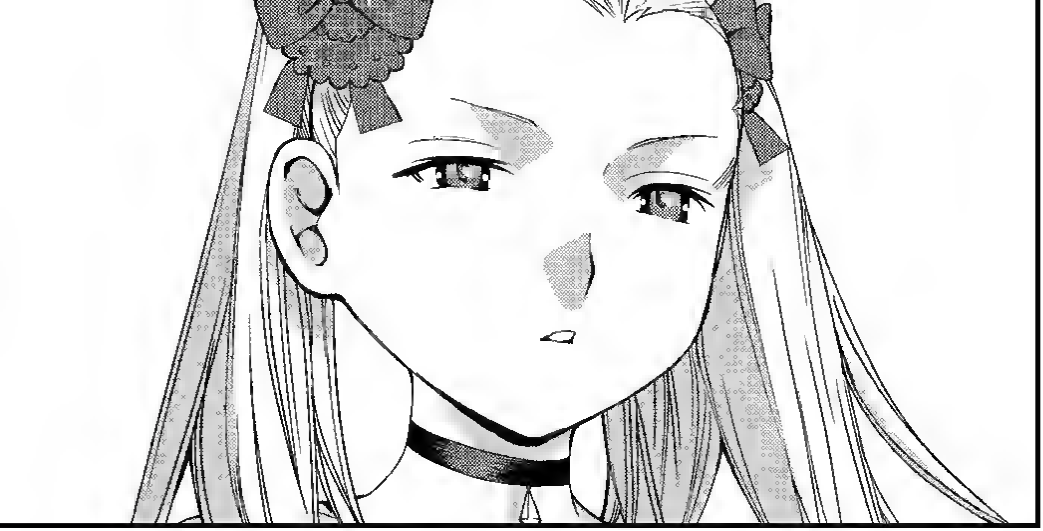

I THINK IT WOULDN'T BE A BAD THING TO KNOW THE ROOTS OF HIS PHILOSOPHY.
I IMAGINE THAT GUNZOU CHIHAYA HAS HAD A CON-SIDERABLE EFFECT ON THE FOG.

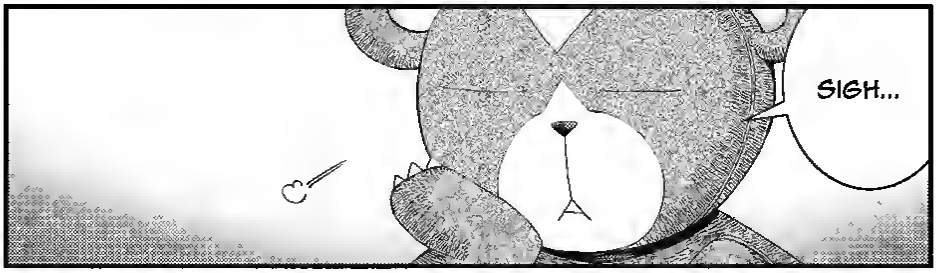

YOU MAY WELL FIND YOUR-SELVES...
...FACING HIM AGAIN AT SOME POINT.
IF WE DID FACE THE 401 AGAIN...
...AS A SERVANT OF HUMANITY, WOULDN'T YOU WANT HIM TO WIN?
I JUDGE WHAT'S BEST FOR HUMANITY, AND ACT.
THAT'S ALL.

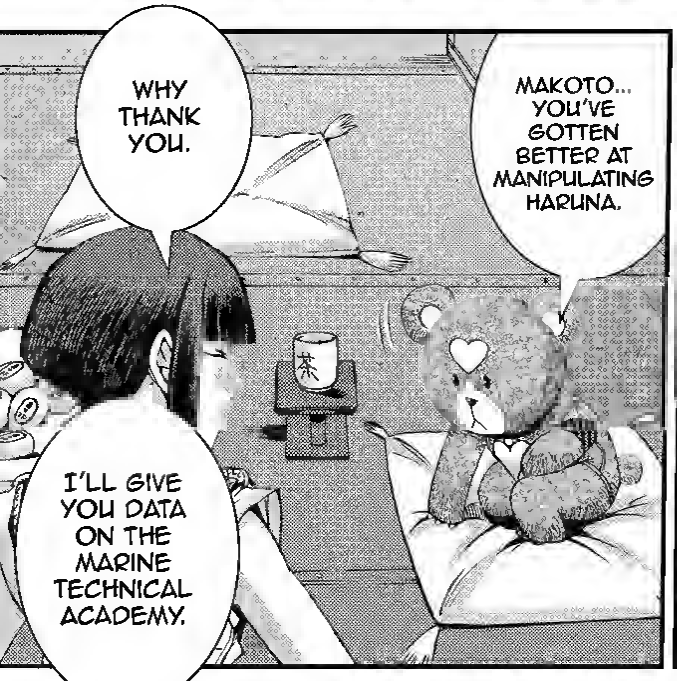
...YOU WOULD HELP US?
SO IF OUR VICTORY IS WHAT'S BEST FOR HUMANITY...
...IS A POLITICIAN'S JOB.
DECIDING WHAT WILL BE BEST FOR HUMANITY IN FIFTY YEARS, OR EVEN A CENTURY...
YOU'VE ONLY RECENTLY ACQUIRED THE CONCEPT OF TIME. MAYBE THAT'S TRUE FOR YOU.
I DON'T GET IT. I JUST DON'T UNDER-STAND.
...THAT MEANS MAKING AN ENEMY OUT OF THE PEOPLE LIVING NOW.
EVEN IF...

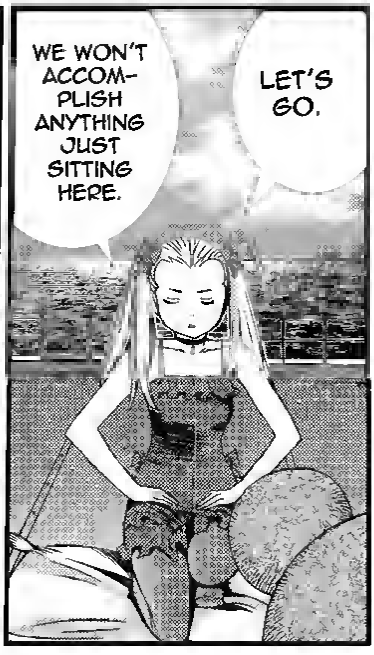
YOU'RE THE FLAGSHIP OF THE DISPATCH FLEET RIGHT NOW.
WELL, WHATEVER. SO? WHAT DO WE DO, HARUNA?
POLITICIANS, MORE THAN HUMANITY.
BUT IT'S A NECESSARY CONCEPT FOR UNDER-STANDING HUMANITY, RIGHT?
IF POSSIBLE...
I WANT A REASON TO KEEP MAKIE WITH US.
...TO FIND THAT LOVELY PLACE.
I'D LIKE TO TAKE HER ON A JOURNEY...

.....
...IF KONGOU WILL ALLOW THAT.
WE DON'T KNOW...
...WHAT LIES BEYOND YOUR ENCOUNTER WITH GUNZOU CHIHAYA.
YOU MAY BE ABLE TO SEE...
...IT'S JUST A SYMBOL, AND A VIBRATION IN THE AIR.
UNLESS YOU TRULY UNDERSTAND WHAT A WORD MEANS...
"ENCOUNTER"... AN UNEXPECTED MEETING. A CHANCE MEETING.
ENCOUNTER?
CLICK
CLICK
THAT'S NOT ENOUGH FOR ME TO REALLY GET IT.

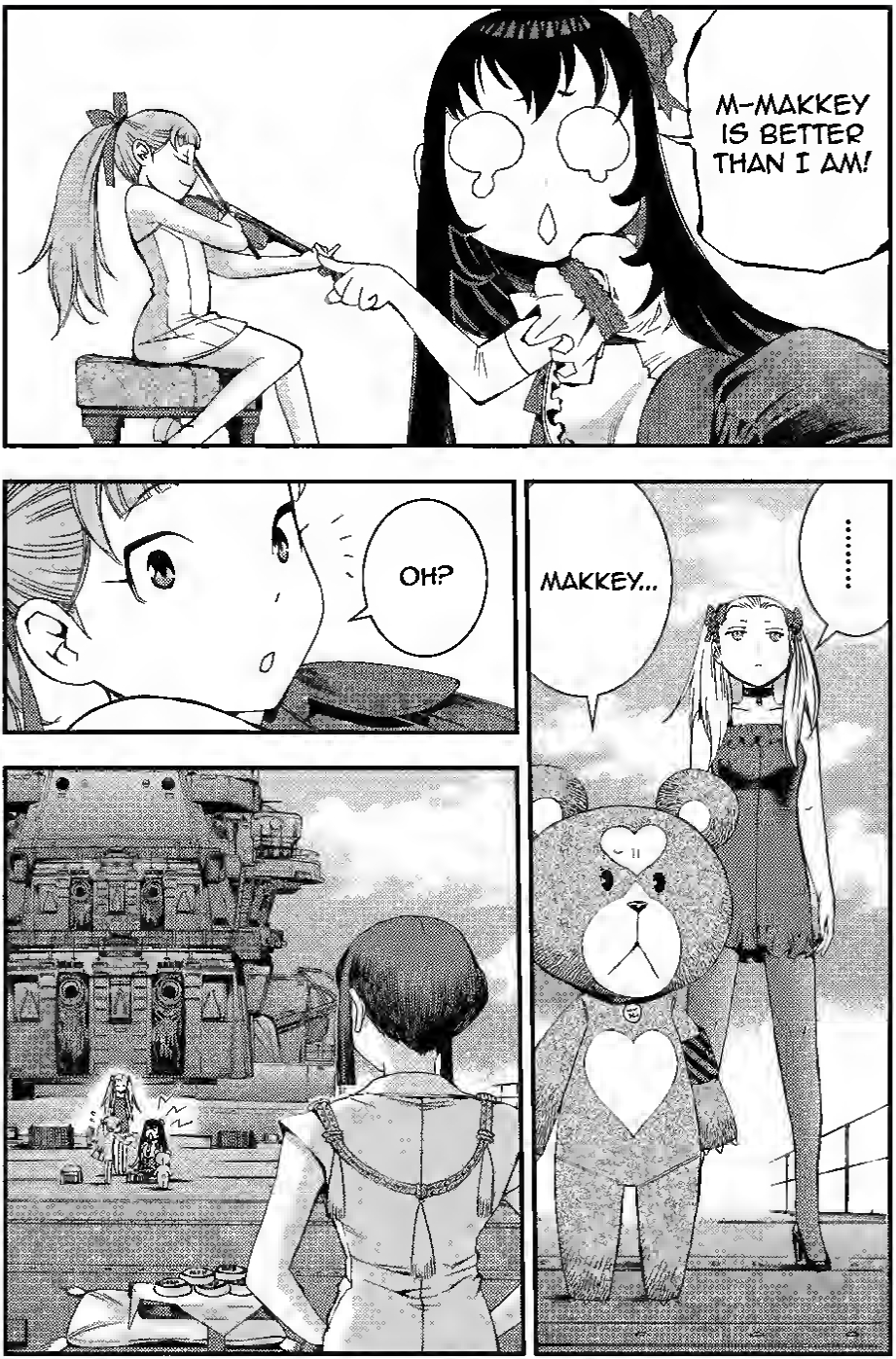


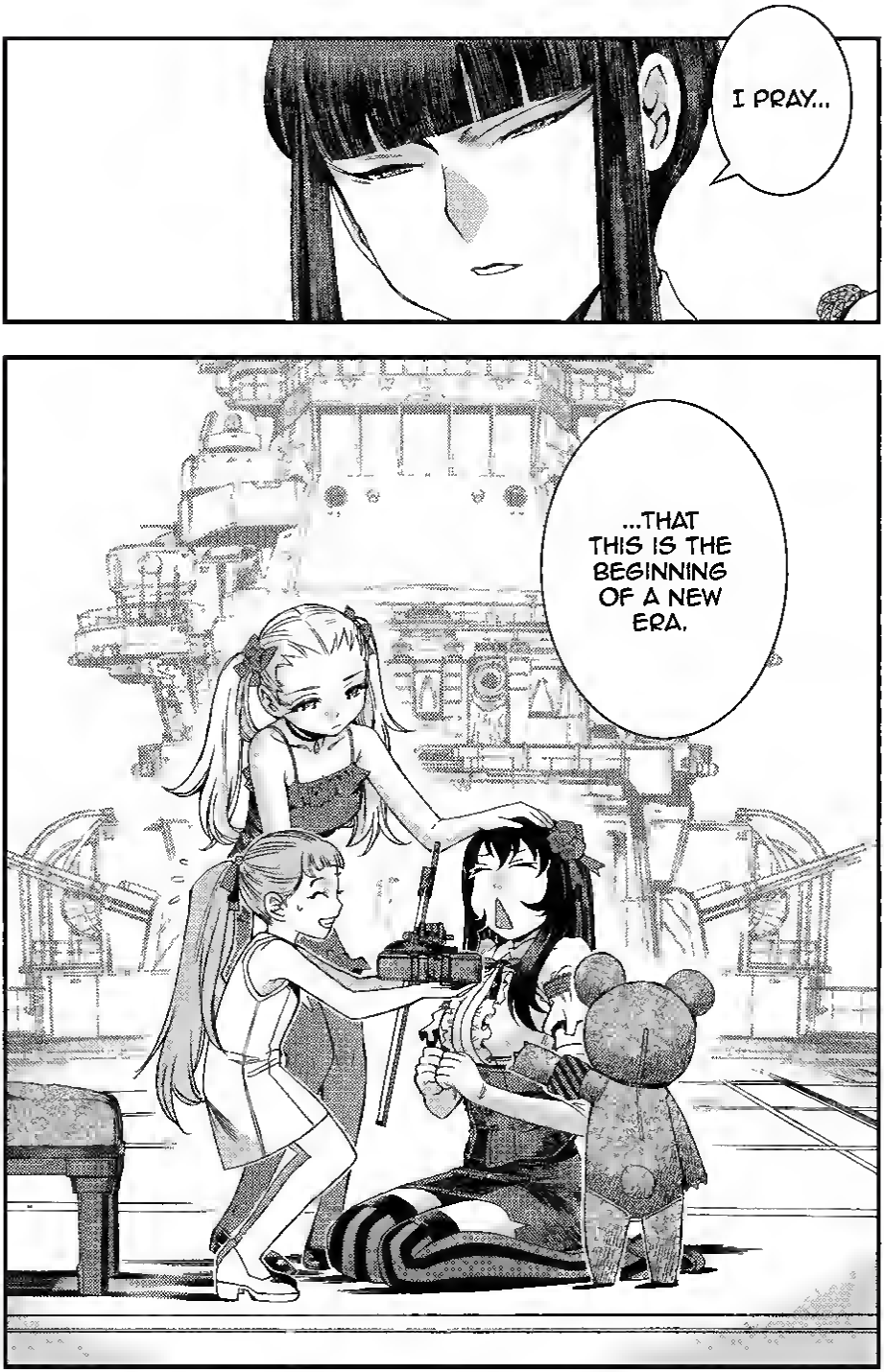

SIGH...


WHY THANK YOU.
MAKOTO... YOU'VE GOTTEN BETTER AT MANIPULATING HARUNA.
I'LL GIVE YOU DATA ON THE MARINE TECHNICAL ACADEMY.


WE WON'T ACCOM-PLISH ANYTHING JUST SITTING HERE.
LET'S GO.

WE JUST NEED TO GO LOOK AT FACILITY FOUR, RIGHT?
YES.
UNDER-STOOD.
MAYA! GET READY TO LEAVE PORT!
WAIT... WHAT ARE YOU DOING?


M-MAKKEY IS BETTER THAN I AM!
OH?
MAKKEY...
.....



Depth:049 ／ END

KNOCK
KNOCK
KNOCK
Depth:050
UNDER-SECRETARY FOR MILITARY AFFAIRS RYUUJIROU KAMIKAGE IS HERE.
TELL HIM TO COME IN.
PARDON THE INTRUSION.
CREAK
CONGRATU-LATIONS ON YOUR PRO-MOTION, UNDERSEC-RETARY.
KLAT
KLAT

I WAS THINKING ABOUT THAT ON THE WAY OVER HERE.
I'M NOT SURE IF A PROMOTION IS A GOOD THING THESE DAYS.
BUT WE'RE GOING TO CHANGE THAT.
VRRR
THAT'S BEEN THE CASE UNTIL NOW.
...PRIME MINISTER.
YES...
BEEP
THE 401 HAS MADE CONTACT WITH THE FOG'S FIRST PATROL FLEET...
I'VE RECEIVED SEVERAL REPORTS FROM MILITARY AFFAIRS.

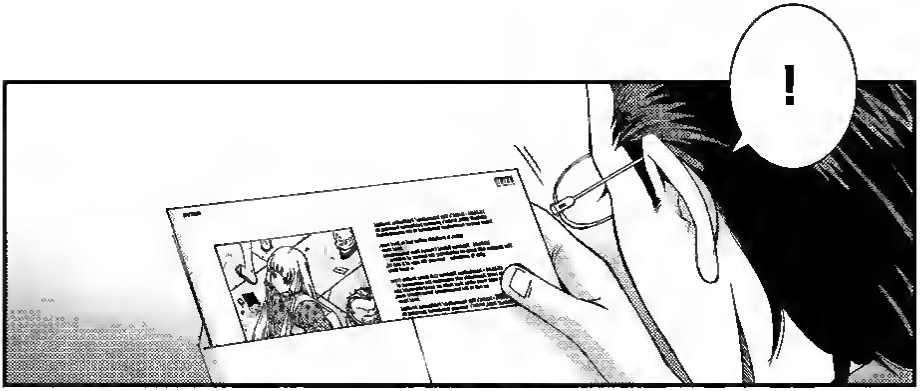
...FELT COMPELLED TO RETURN TO THE FIRST FLEET'S PATROL ZONE...
WHY EXACTLY THE 401...
T VRRR T
T T
YES.
KASHOOM
...AND OUR HAKUGEI HAS MADE CONTACT WITH A SHIP FROM THE FAR EAST FLEET.
VRRR
WE MUST ALLOW THE CHIPS TO FALL WHERE THEY MAY. THAT I UNDERSTAND.
BUT THERE'S NO WAY FOR US TO INTERVENE IN EITHER SITUATION.
KLAT
KLAT
I'M SORRY.
THESE WERE EARLY REPORTS, SO THERE'S A LOT I DON'T UNDERSTAND.
...AND WHY CAPTAIN KOMAKI OF THE HAKUGEI FELT THE NEED TO GET INVOLVED IN A BATTLE BETWEEN FOG SHIPS...
KLAT
KLAT

I'D LIKE YOU TO LOOK AT SOME-THING.
NOW...
VRRR
THANK YOU.
OF COURSE, I'LL TAKE A LOOK.
RUSTLE
!
CLICK

THIS PHOTO IS FROM OUR LAST REMAINING SPY SATELLITE, OOTORI.
THIS IS FROM THIS MORNING. IT SHOWS A SHIP LEAVING HAKODATE PORT.
CONFIDENTIAL FILE.SYS DELETE COUNT -3MIN
...AND FROM THE REST OF THE GOVERN-MENT AS WELL.
WE'VE KEPT IT FROM MILITARY AFFAIRS...
THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE HAS BEEN MONITOR-ING THIS DIRECTLY.
WHAT IS THE NORTHERN SECTOR UP TO?
I'LL HAVE INTELLIGENCE CONFIRM THEIR WHEREABOUTS IMMEDIATELY
WHICH MEANS IT'S NOW REACHED A STAGE WHERE YOU CAN TELL US ABOUT IT?

...A FOG TAKAO-CLASS HEAVY CRUISER LEFT HAKODATE PORT.
AT 5 O'CLOCK THIS MORN-ING...
YES.
.....
...AND WE HAVEN'T SEEN IT SINCE
AFTER LEAVING PORT IT DIVED UNDER-WATER...
AN ANALYSIS OF THE PHOTO REVEALED IT IS LIKELY THE "MAYA."
AND EVEN IF I DID, I DOUBT THEY'D GIVE AN HONEST ANSWER.
I HAVEN'T ASKED THE NORTHERN SECTOR I DON'T WANT THEM KNOWING ABOUT THE STATUS OF OOTORI

...WHO IS THE WIFE OF SHOUZOU.. ...AND THE MOTHER OF GUNZOU CHIHAYA, CAPTAIN OF THE 401.
AS IS THE WOMAN...
...IS IN THE NORTHERN SECTOR.
THE DESIGNER CHILD...
AND ONE MORE THING.
VRRR
THANK YOU.
I'LL HAVE INTELLIGENCE CONFIRM THEIR WHEREABOUTS IMMEDIATELY.
RUSTLE
.....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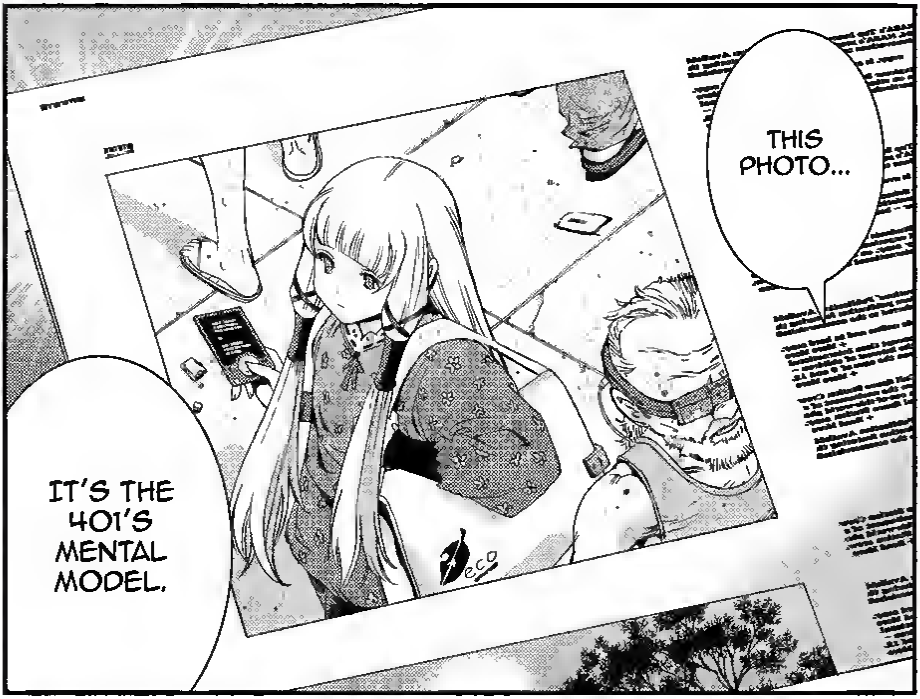
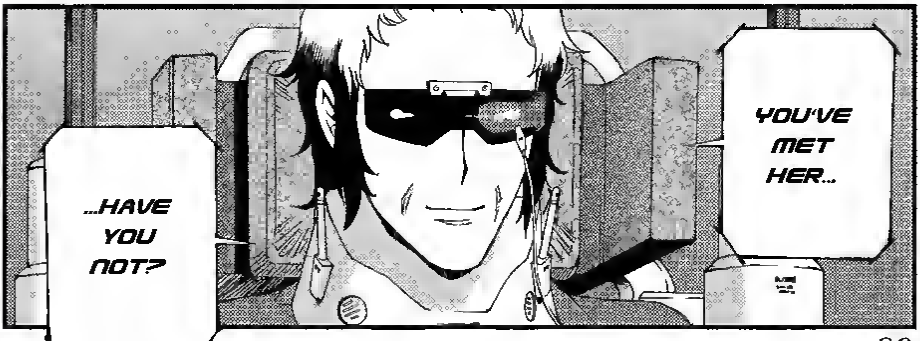
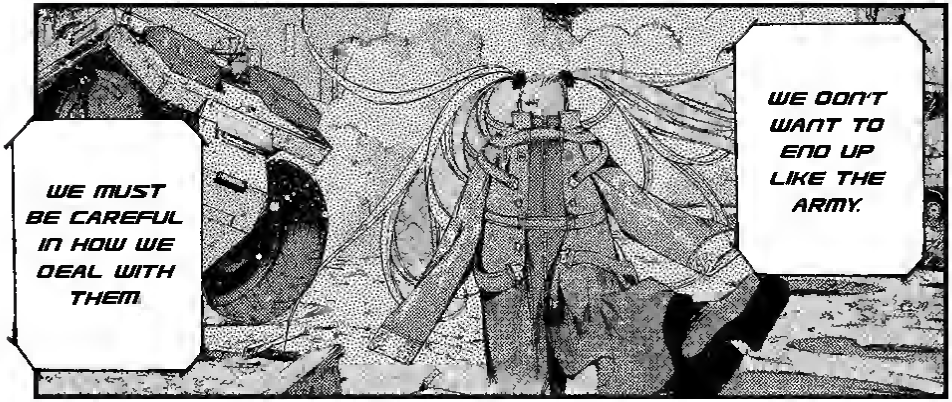

THIS PHOTO...
IT'S THE 401'S MENTAL MODEL.


YOU'VE MET HER...
...HAVE YOU NOT?

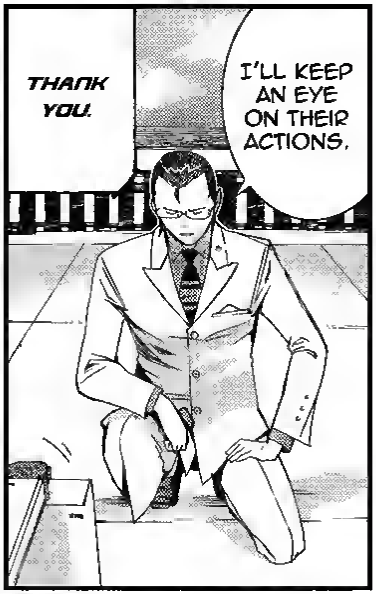
...ATTENDED SCHOOL UNDER THE NAME OF IONA KIRINO.
THIS OTHER PHOTO IS FROM ABOUT TWO YEARS AGO, WHEN THE MENTAL MODEL OF THE 401...
I'M SURE OF IT.
YES.
RUSTLE
...THE 401 IS PRESENTLY ENGAGING THE FIRST PATROL FLEET.
BUT ACCORDING TO MILITARY AFFAIRS..
SO...
WHO IS SHE?

...THIS GIRL "TRANS-FERRED" INTO THE SCHOOL TODAY.
AND THIS...
VRRR
.....
BEYOND HER TASTE IN NAMES, EVERYTHING IS ALMOST TOO PERFECT. THESE TWO HAVE BOTH SUDDENLY APPEARED.
First Report Mar
Takao Aoki
HER NAME IS TAKAO AOKI. HER DOCUMENTS ARE IN PERFECT ORDER.
MOST LIKELY.
THEY'RE BOTH MENTAL MODELS?

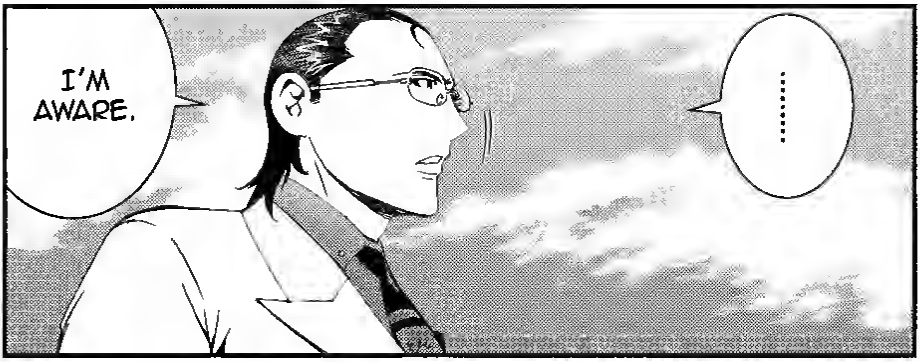
I THINK SO TOO. BUT...
RUSTLE
IT'S HARD TO BELIEVE THAT THERE'S NO CONNECTION WITH THE SHIP THAT LEFT HAKODATE.

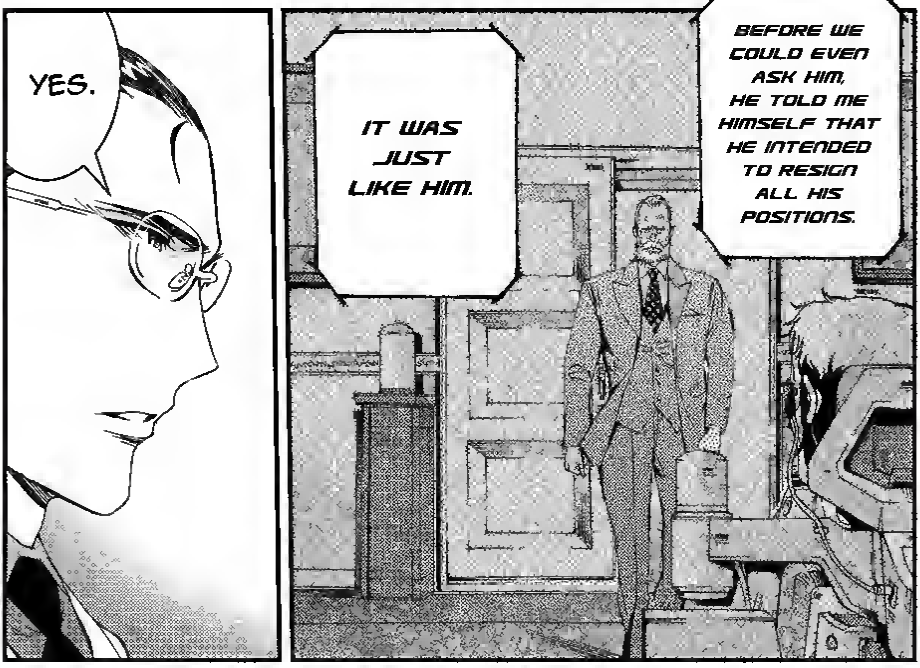

WE MUST BE CAREFUL IN HOW WE DEAL WITH THEM.
WE DON'T WANT TO END UP LIKE THE ARMY.

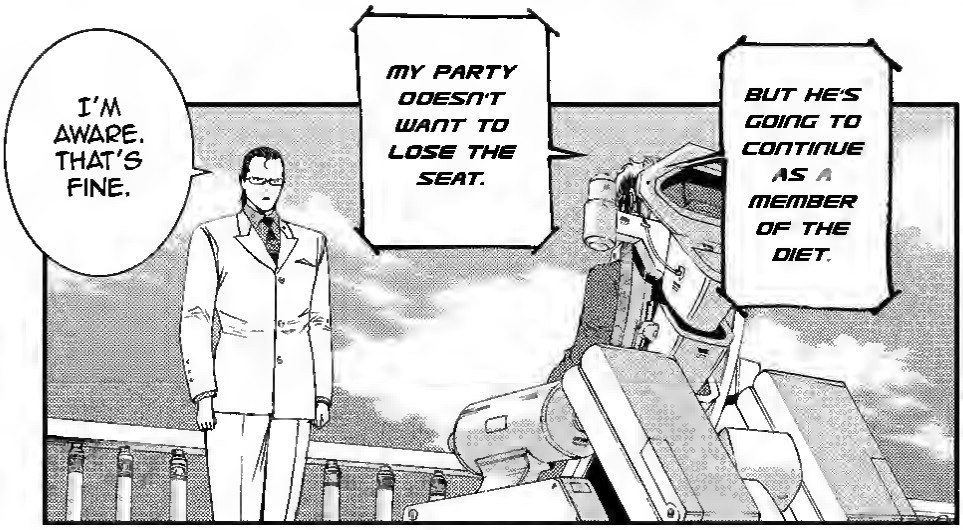
KAMI-KAGE.
IF THAT'S ALL...
KLAT

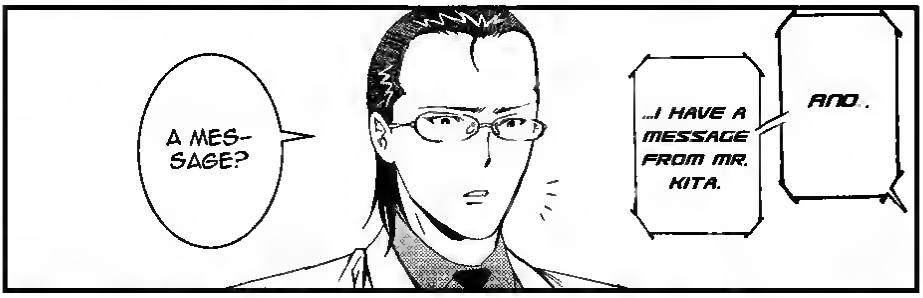

THANK YOU.
I'LL KEEP AN EYE ON THEIR ACTIONS.

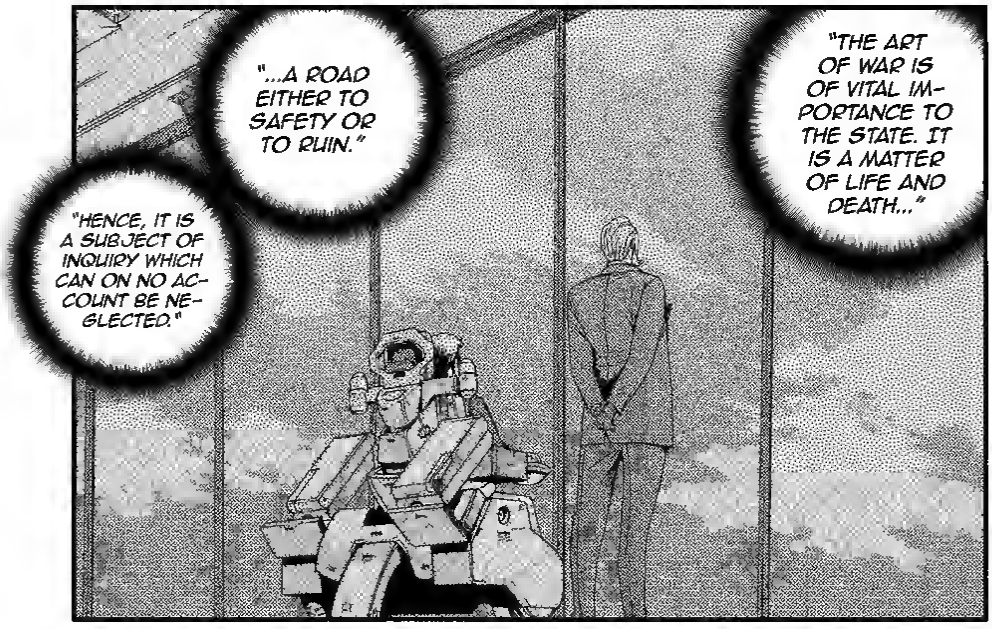
...AS PROMISED.
MR. KITA HAS RE-SIGNED...


I'M AWARE.
.....

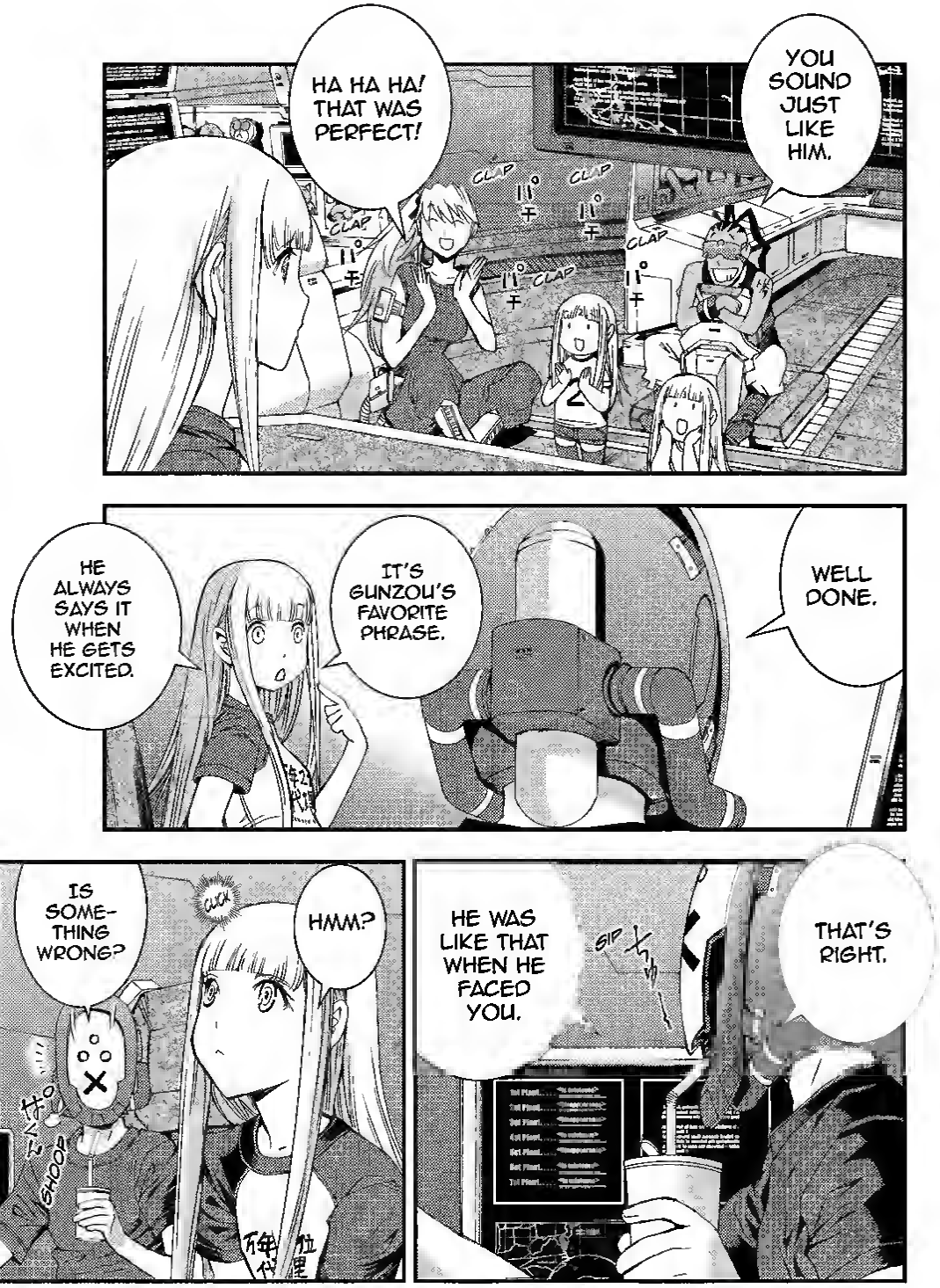

YES.
IT WAS JUST LIKE HIM.
BEFORE WE COULD EVEN ASK HIM, HE TOLD ME HIMSELF THAT HE INTENDED TO RESIGN ALL HIS POSITIONS.

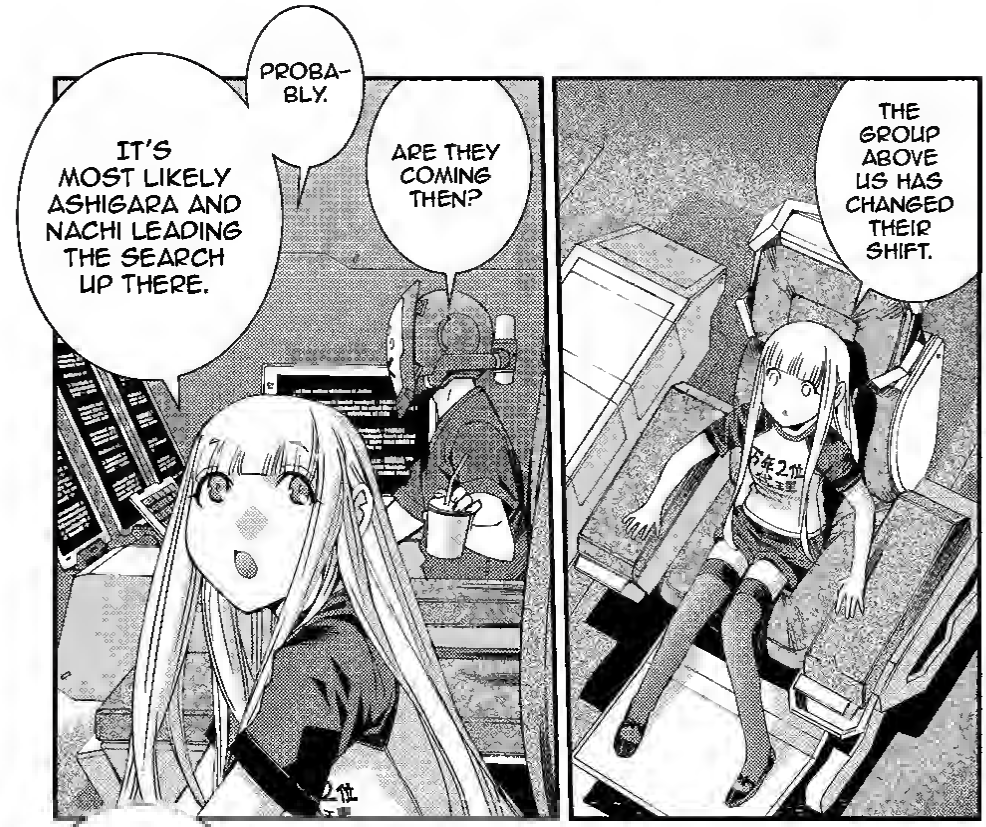

I'M AWARE. THAT'S FINE.
MY PARTY DOESN'T WANT TO LOSE THE SEAT.
BUT HE'S GOING TO CONTINUE AS A MEMBER OF THE DIET.


A MES-SAGE?
...I HAVE A MESSAGE FROM MR. KITA.
AND.

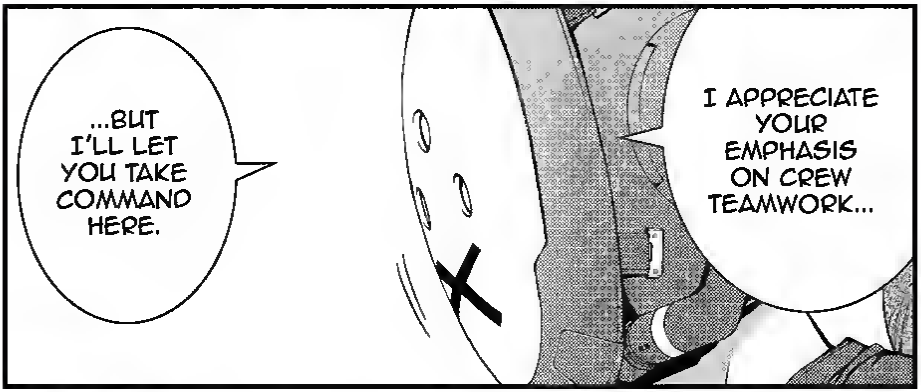

"...A ROAD EITHER TO SAFETY OR TO RUIN."
"THE ART OF WAR IS OF VITAL IM-PORTANCE TO THE STATE. IT IS A MATTER OF LIFE AND DEATH..."
"HENCE, IT IS A SUBJECT OF INQUIRY WHICH CAN ON NO AC-COUNT BE NE-GLECTED."

...IN LIGHT OF MY PROMO-TION.
I'LL KEEP THAT IN MIND...
.....
INDEED.
LET'S DO THIS!

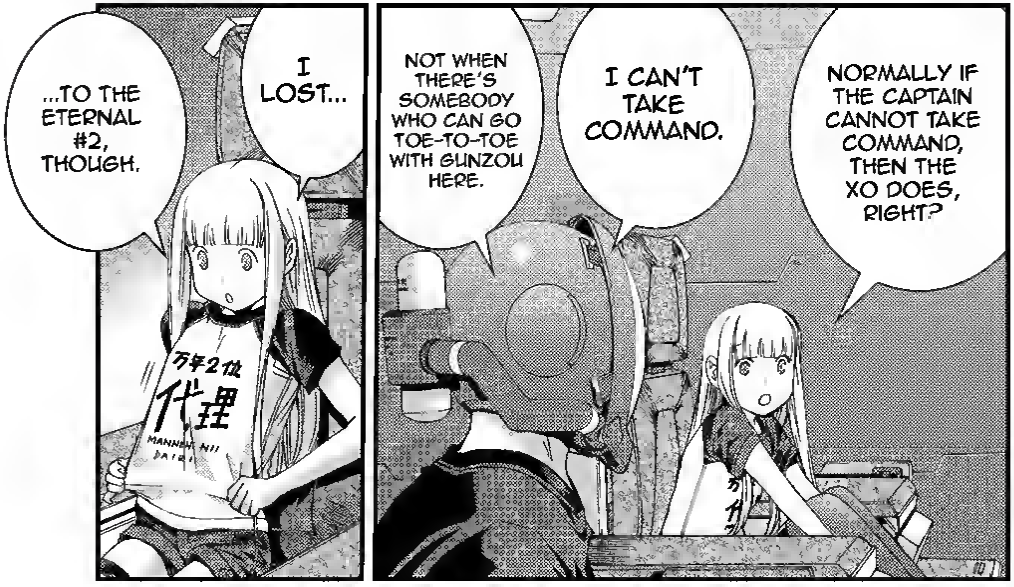

HA HA HA! THAT WAS PERFECT!
YOU SOUND JUST LIKE HIM.
CLAP
CLAP
CLAP
CLAP
CLAP
HE ALWAYS SAYS IT WHEN HE GETS EXCITED.
IT'S GUNZOU'S FAVORITE PHRASE.
WELL DONE.
IS SOME-THING WRONG?
HMM?
CLICK
SHOOP
HE WAS LIKE THAT WHEN HE FACED YOU.
SIP
THAT'S RIGHT.

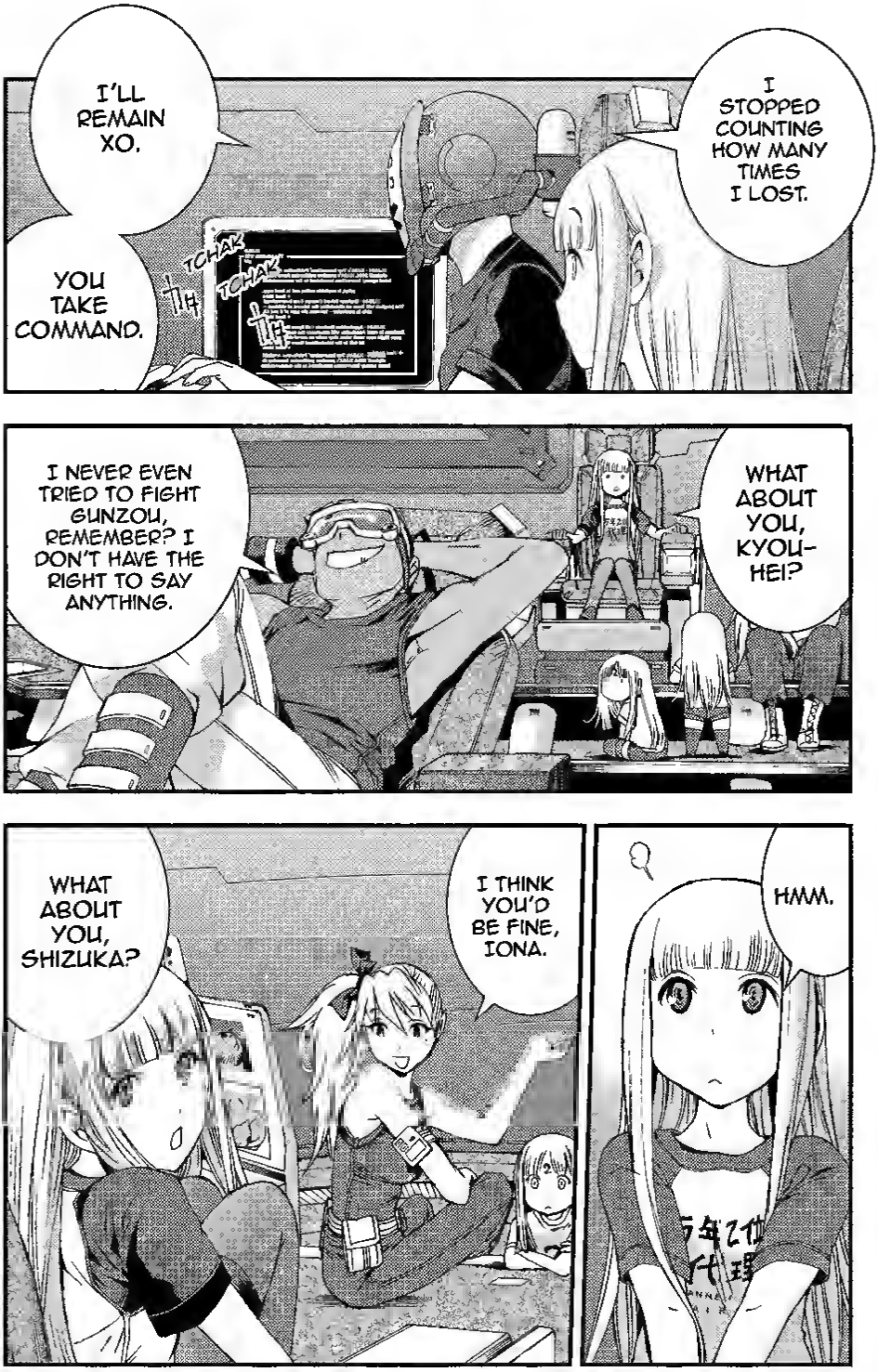

PROBA-
BLY.
IT'S MOST LIKELY ASHIGARA AND NACHI LEADING THE SEARCH UP THERE.
ARE THEY COMING THEN?
THE GROUP ABOVE US HAS CHANGED THEIR SHIFT.

...BUT ASHIGARA IS QUITE AGGRESSIVE.
GWOOOOM
NACHI'S MENTAL MODEL IS VERY CAUTIOUS...
I SEE.



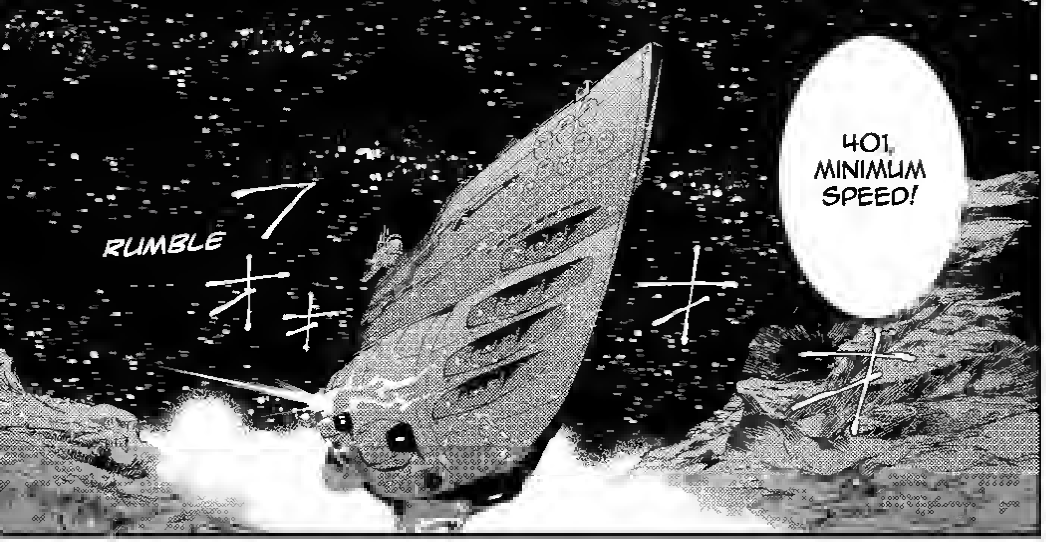
Shirt: Eternal #2 Stand-In

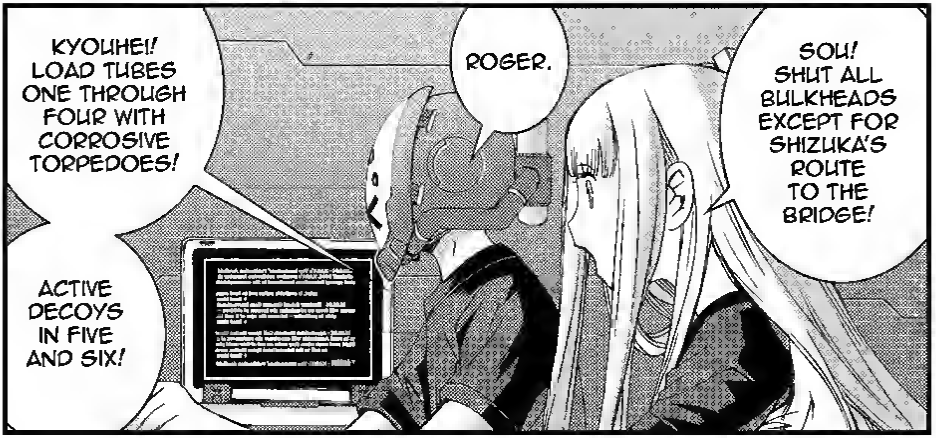

NORMALLY IF THE CAPTAIN CANNOT TAKE COMMAND, THEN THE XO DOES, RIGHT?
I CAN'T TAKE COMMAND.
NOT WHEN THERE'S SOMEBODY WHO CAN GO TOE-TO-TOE WITH GUNZOU HERE.
I LOST...
...TO THE ETERNAL #2, THOUGH.


I'LL REMAIN XO.
YOU TAKE COMMAND.
TCHAK
TCHAK
I STOPPED COUNTING HOW MANY TIMES I LOST.
I NEVER EVEN TRIED TO FIGHT GUNZOU, REMEMBER? I DON'T HAVE THE RIGHT TO SAY ANYTHING.
WHAT ABOUT YOU, KYOU-HEI?
WHAT ABOUT YOU, SHIZUKA?
I THINK YOU'D BE FINE, IONA.
HMM.

HMPH.
HMPH
2
I THINK YOU'LL BE FINE!
おおお
WOOOMMH
CLICK
CLICK
CLICK

BATTLE STATIONS!
BAM
DETECTING A TORPEDO! JUST ONE!
BAM
BAM
TAKA
TAKA
TAKA
CHECKING SHIP INTERNALS!
WOOSH
TURNING ON ENGINE!
FIRE CONTROL SYSTEMS ALL GREEN!
BEEP
BEEP
BEEP
BEEP


RUMBLE
ゴゴゴ
401, MINIMUM SPEED!


KYOUHEI! LOAD TUBES ONE THROUGH FOUR WITH CORROSIVE TORPEDOES!
ROGER.
SOU! SHUT ALL BULKHEADS EXCEPT FOR SHIZUKA'S ROUTE TO THE BRIDGE!
ACTIVE DECOYS IN FIVE AND SIX!

!
SHIZUKA, PUT ON SOME CLOTHES!

KREEEE
ドォ
THWOOOM
I FOUND THEM!
オォ

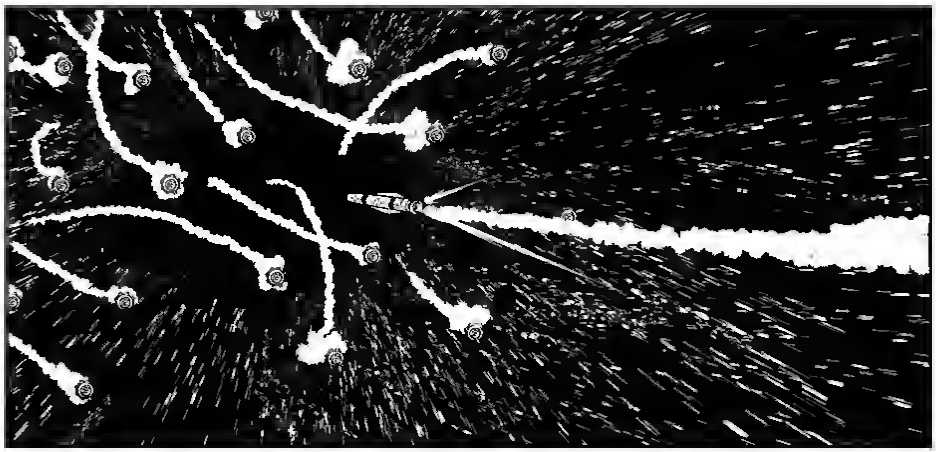
I FOUND THEM, NACHI!
CONFIRMING ECHO FROM ACOUSTIC TORPEDO!
ACQUIRING AND ANALYZING SONAR DATA. CONTACTING THE REAR SHIPS...

I'LL LEAVE THAT TO YOU!
THWOOOM
I ALWAYS WANTED TO FIGHT YOU!
THWOOOM

AT LEAST PUT UP A FIELD!
ASHI-GARA!
9!
40— HRGKH! GLRUB!
ゴボ
BURBLE
ゴボ
BURBLE
ゴボ
YOU'RE-BLE MINE-GURGLE NOW-GLUB!
ゴボ
GLUB

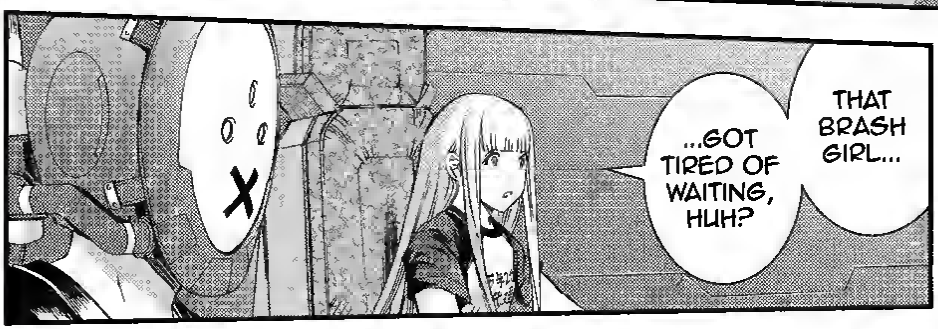
DETECTING TORPEDOES! FULL SPEED AHEAD! HARD TURN TO STARBOARD!
SHWOOOM
REAR TORPEDO TUBES PREPARE TO FIRE LOW-FREQUENCY WARHEADS!

FIRE LOW-FREQUENCY WARHEAD TORPEDOES! LET THEM RUN FOR 34 SECONDS AND THEN DETONATE THEM!
READY TO FIRE!
FWOOSH
AH HA HA HA.
IT'S ALL RIGHT. IT'S BETTER THAN HAVING YOU SHOW UP NAKED.
DASH
SORRY I'M LATE!
DASH



ドキ
BOOM

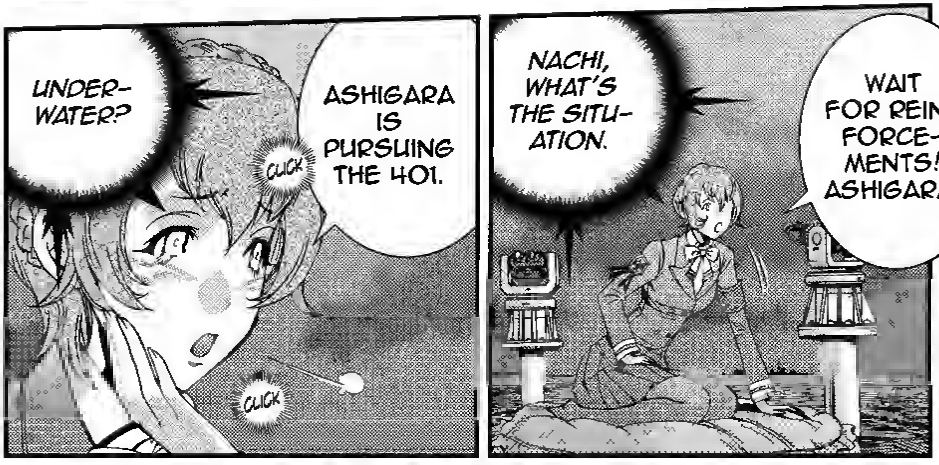
ZZSSSH
THWOOM
THWOOM
THWOOM

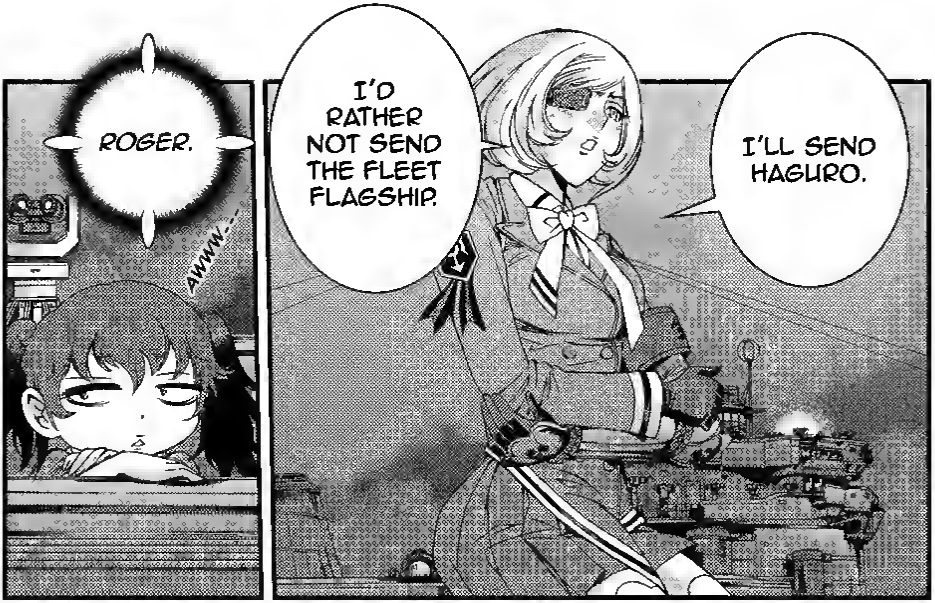


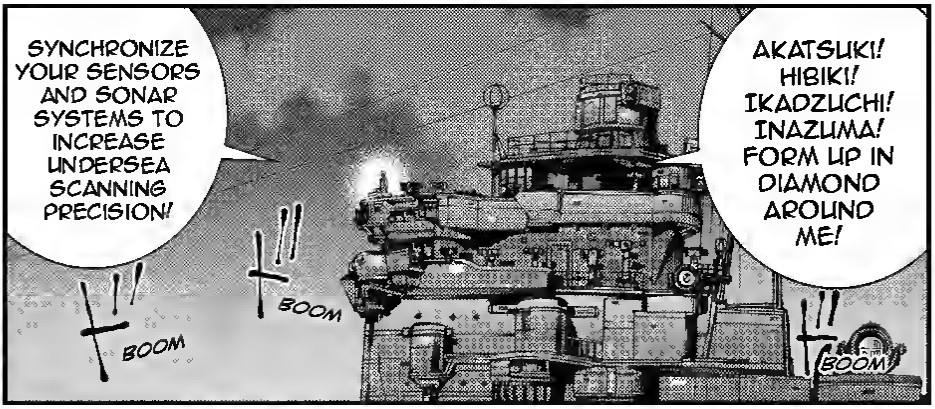
Depth:050 ／ END

FLASH
Depth:051
BASHOOM
ZRRM
ZRRM
KREE
KREE

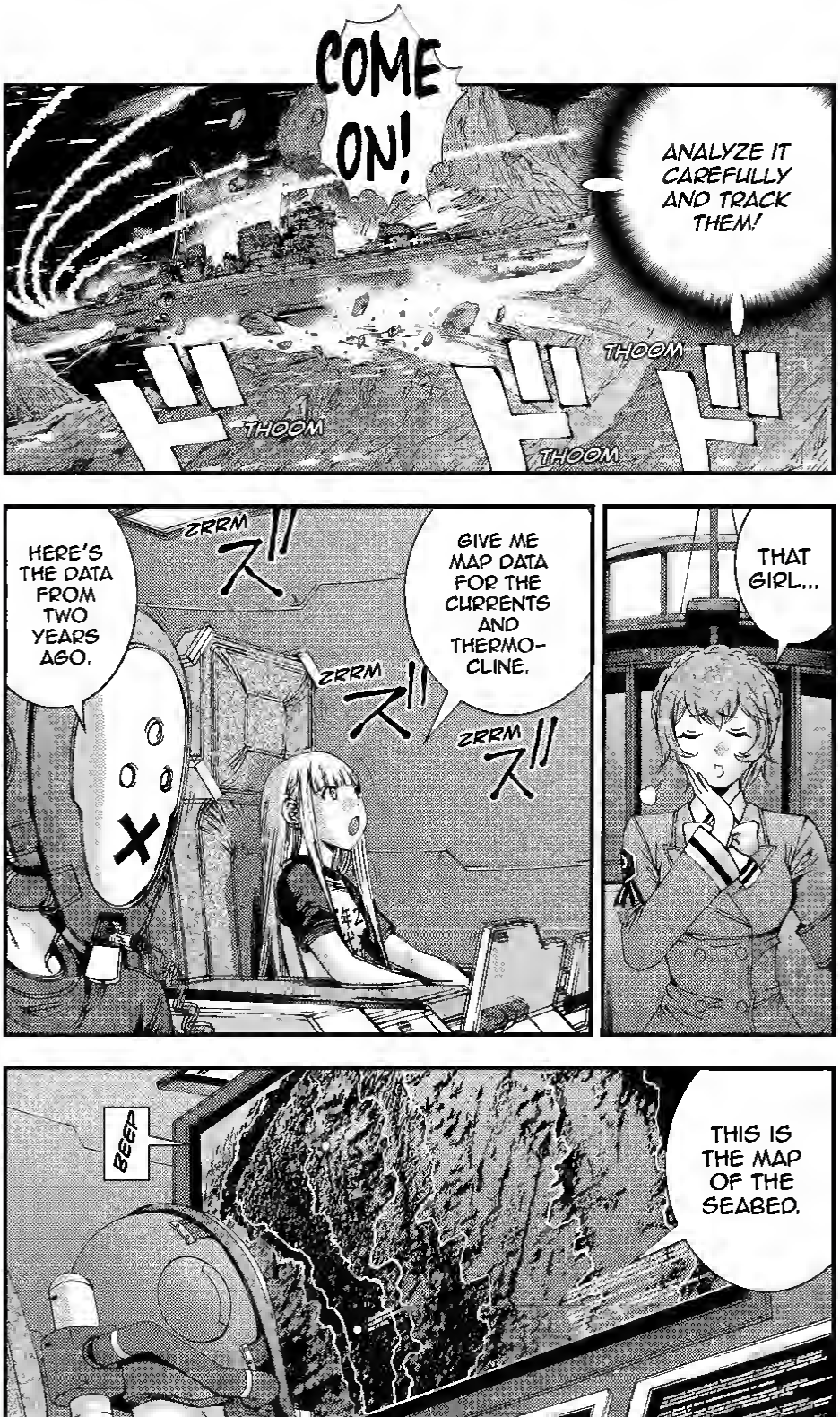
THWOOOM
NACHI! I'LL HUNT HER FROM UNDER-WATER.
SO YOU DIVE!
T-WOOOM


UNDER-WATER?
ASHIGARA IS PURSUING THE 401.
CLICK
CLICK
NACHI, WHAT'S THE SITU-ATION.
WAIT FOR REIN-FORCE-MENTS! ASHIGARA!

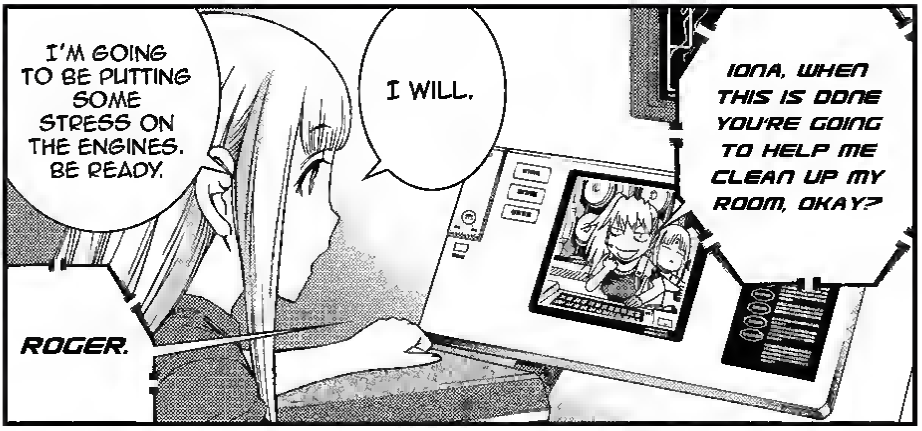

ROGER.
AWWW...
I'D RATHER NOT SEND THE FLEET FLAGSHIP.
I'LL SEND HAGURO.

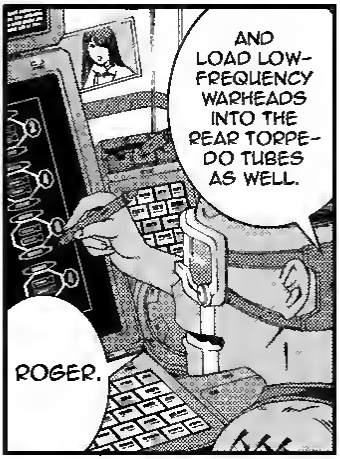

SYNCHRONIZE YOUR SENSORS AND SONAR SYSTEMS TO INCREASE UNDERSEA SCANNING PRECISION!
AKATSUKI! HIBIKI! IKAZUCHI! INAZUMA! FORM UP IN DIAMOND AROUND ME!
BOOM
BOOM
BOOM

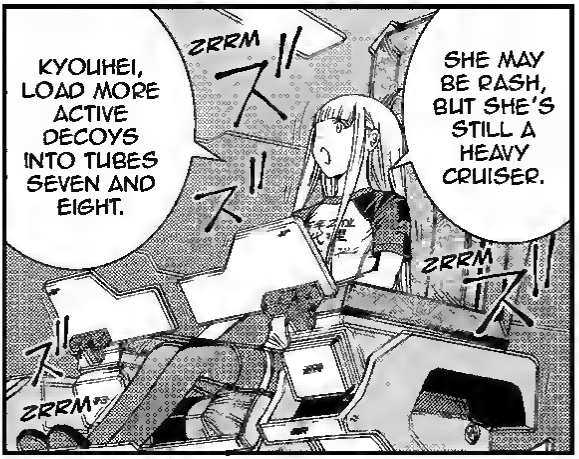
I'M SENDING YOU OUR OBSER-VATIONAL DATA!
ASHI-GARA!
I'LL SPEAK TO ASHIGARA ABOUT IT.
HIBIKI, WE CAN TALK ABOUT IT LATER.


COME ON!
ANALYZE IT CAREFULLY AND TRACK THEM!
THOOM
THOOM
THOOM
ZRRM
ZRRM
ZRRM
HERE'S THE DATA FROM TWO YEARS AGO.
GIVE ME MAP DATA FOR THE CURRENTS AND THERMO-CLINE.
THAT GIRL...
BEEP
THIS IS THE MAP OF THE SEABED.

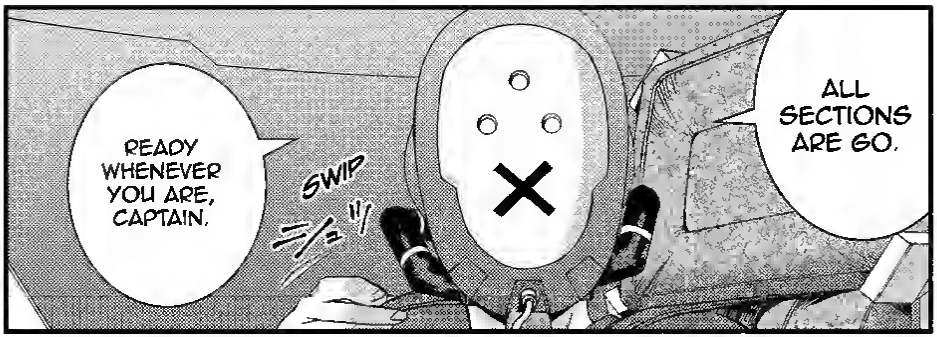
ZRRM
ZRRM
SOMETHING INTEREST-ING?
I FOUND SOMETHING INTEREST-ING.
SERI-OUSLY.
SERI-OUSLY?
SWIP
YES, BUT I'LL SAVE IT FOR LATER.
WE'RE GOING TO DO SOME ACROBATICS IN THIS UNDERWATER CANYON.
AAAH!
MY SHELF OF LIMITED EDITION MIKU STUFF ISN'T!
I HOPE EVERY-BODY'S PERSONAL POSSES-SIONS ARE AS WELL.
ALL EQUIPMENT IS STOWED AND SECURED.


I'M GOING TO BE PUTTING SOME STRESS ON THE ENGINES. BE READY.
I WILL.
IONA, WHEN THIS IS DONE YOU'RE GOING TO HELP ME CLEAN UP MY ROOM, OKAY?
ROGER.

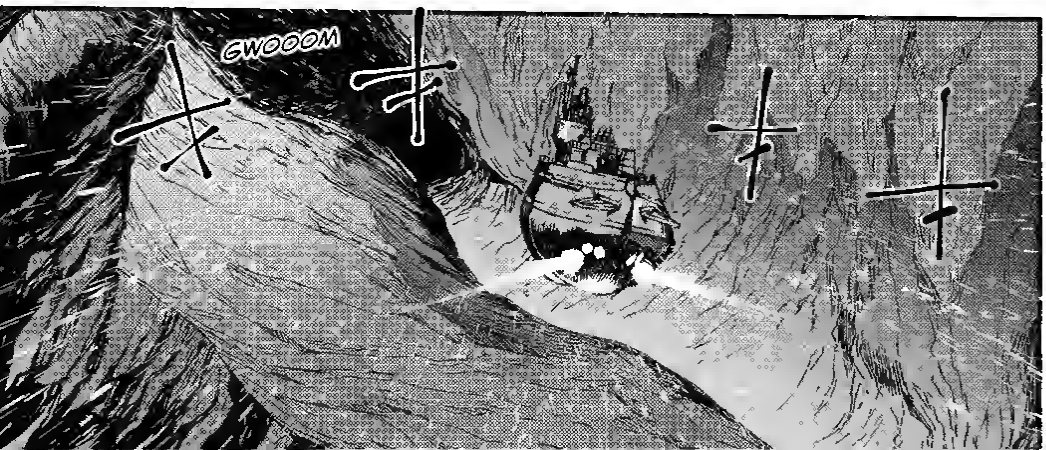

AND LOAD LOW-FREQUENCY WARHEADS INTO THE REAR TORPEDO TUBES AS WELL.
ROGER.

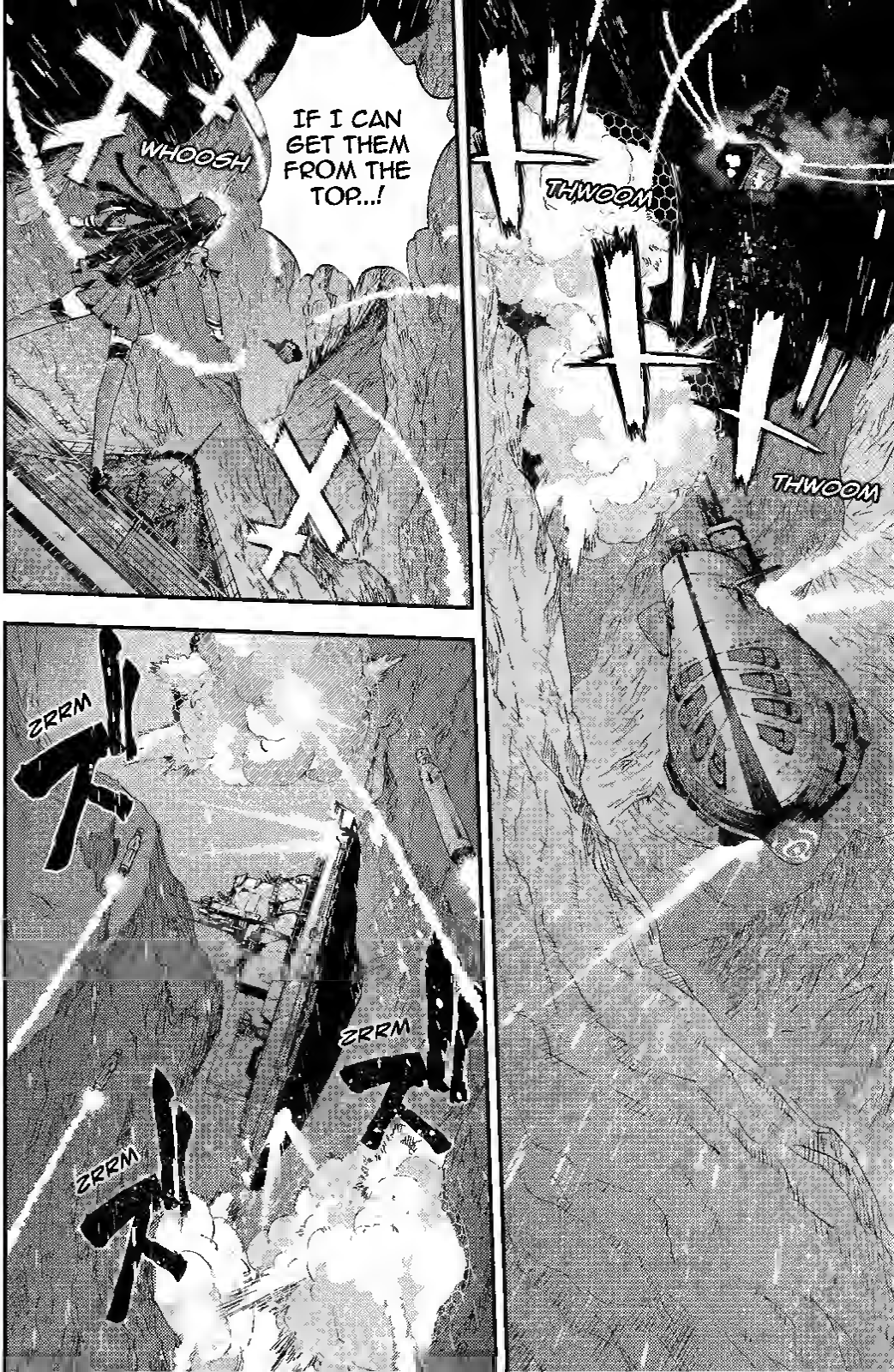

KYOUHEI, LOAD MORE ACTIVE DECOYS INTO TUBES SEVEN AND EIGHT.
ZRRM
ZRRM
ZRRM
SHE MAY BE RASH, BUT SHE'S STILL A HEAVY CRUISER.

ROGER.
BEEP
BEEP
SHIZUKA, I WANT YOU TO GET AS MUCH DATA AS YOU CAN ON ASHIGARA AND THE SURROUNDING AREA.
I'M SURE GUNZOU WILL USE IT.


ALL SECTIONS ARE GO.
SWIP
READY WHENEVER YOU ARE, CAPTAIN.

THEN...
PASHOOM
万年二位
代理
PASHOOM
LET'S BEGIN.

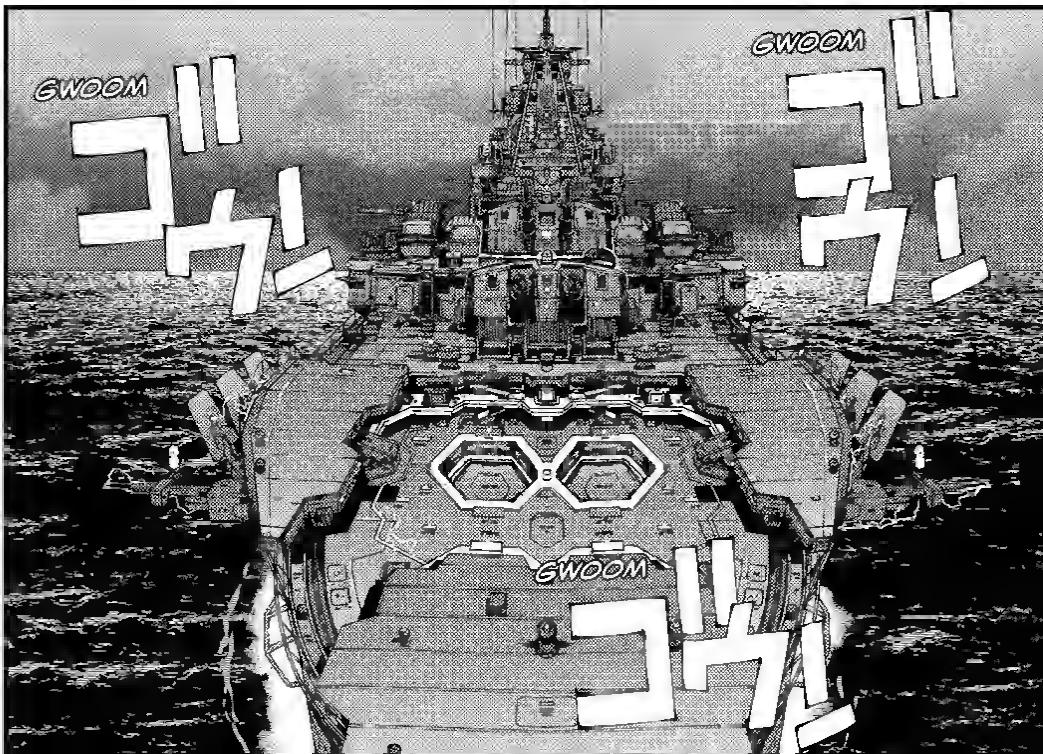

GWOOOM


WHOOSH
IF I CAN GET THEM FROM THE TOP...!
THWOOM
THWOOM
ZRRM
ZRRM
ZRRM

ZRRM
ZRRM
ZRRM
I HAD NO IDEA THAT GUIDING MISSILES THROUGH AN UNDERSEA CANYON WAS SO HARD!
IF I'D KNOWN, I WOULD'VE GOTTEN MORE TORPEDO-GUIDANCE EXPERIENCE POINTS!
THE CURRENTS INSIDE THE CANYON ARE TOO COMPLICATED! AND THE 401 IS STIRRING THEM UP!
Aww, jeez!

YOU GET IN THE PATH OF WHERE THE HOI IS GOING! I'LL FIRE TORPEDOES FROM THE REAR!
NACHI! LINK WITH MY FIRE CONTROL SYSTEMS!

ROGER.
WE'LL CATCH HER FROM BOTH SIDES!

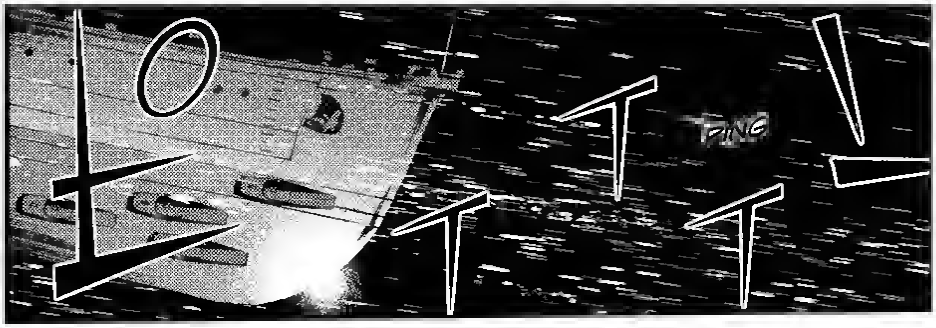

GWOOM
GWOOM
GWOOM

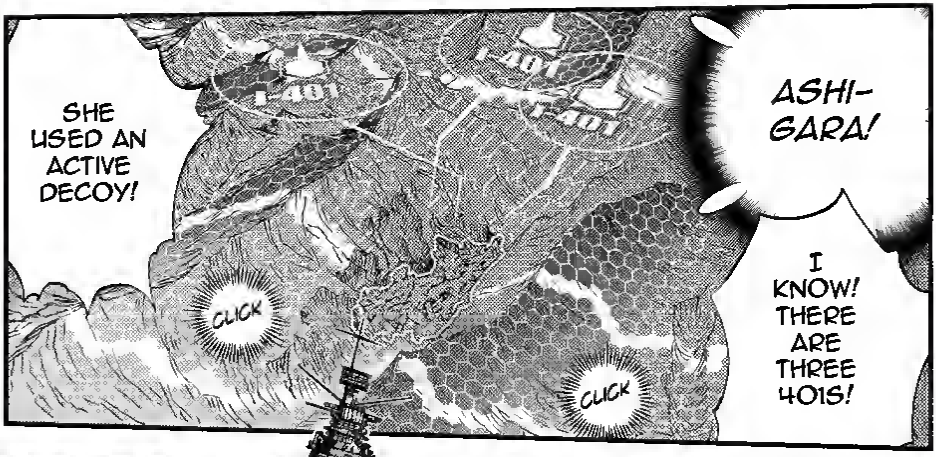
AT THE SPEED SHE'S GOING...
...SHE WON'T HEAR THE SOUND OF A LAUNCH ON THE SURFACE!
THOOM
THOOM
THOOM
READY TO FIRE. I'VE GOT 48 OF THEM READY TO GO. HANDING THE TRIGGER TO YOU.
ROGER! FIRE!

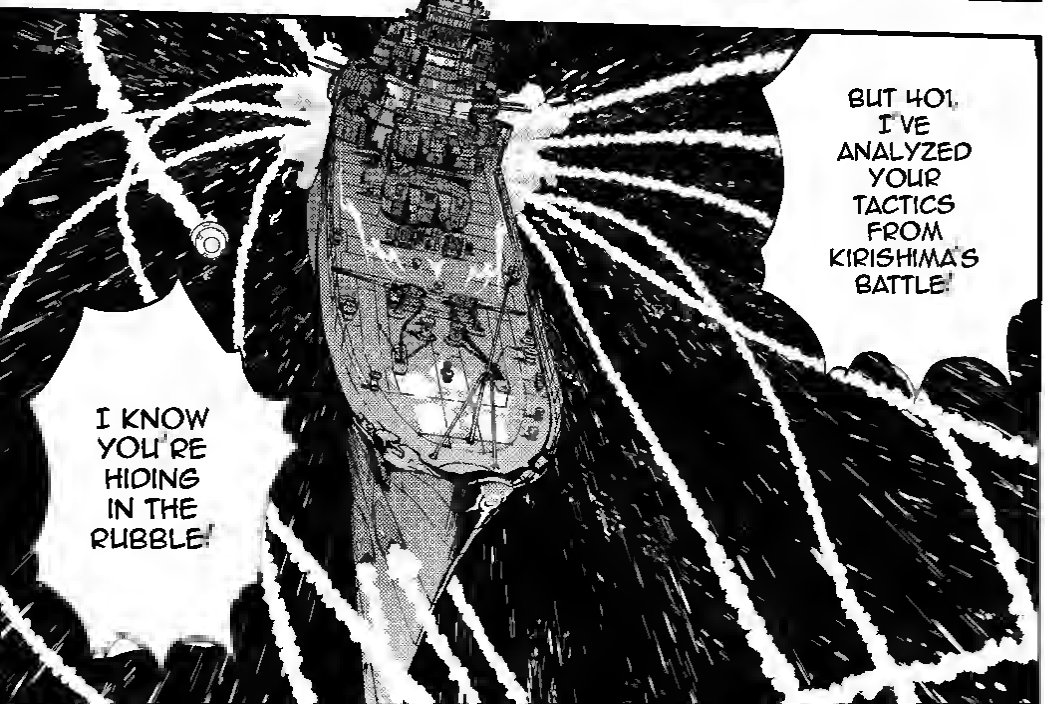
FWOOOSH
KLANG
KLANG
ZMM
ZMM
ZMM

ゴゴゴ

BOOM
BOOM
BOOM
FLASH
KA-SHUNK

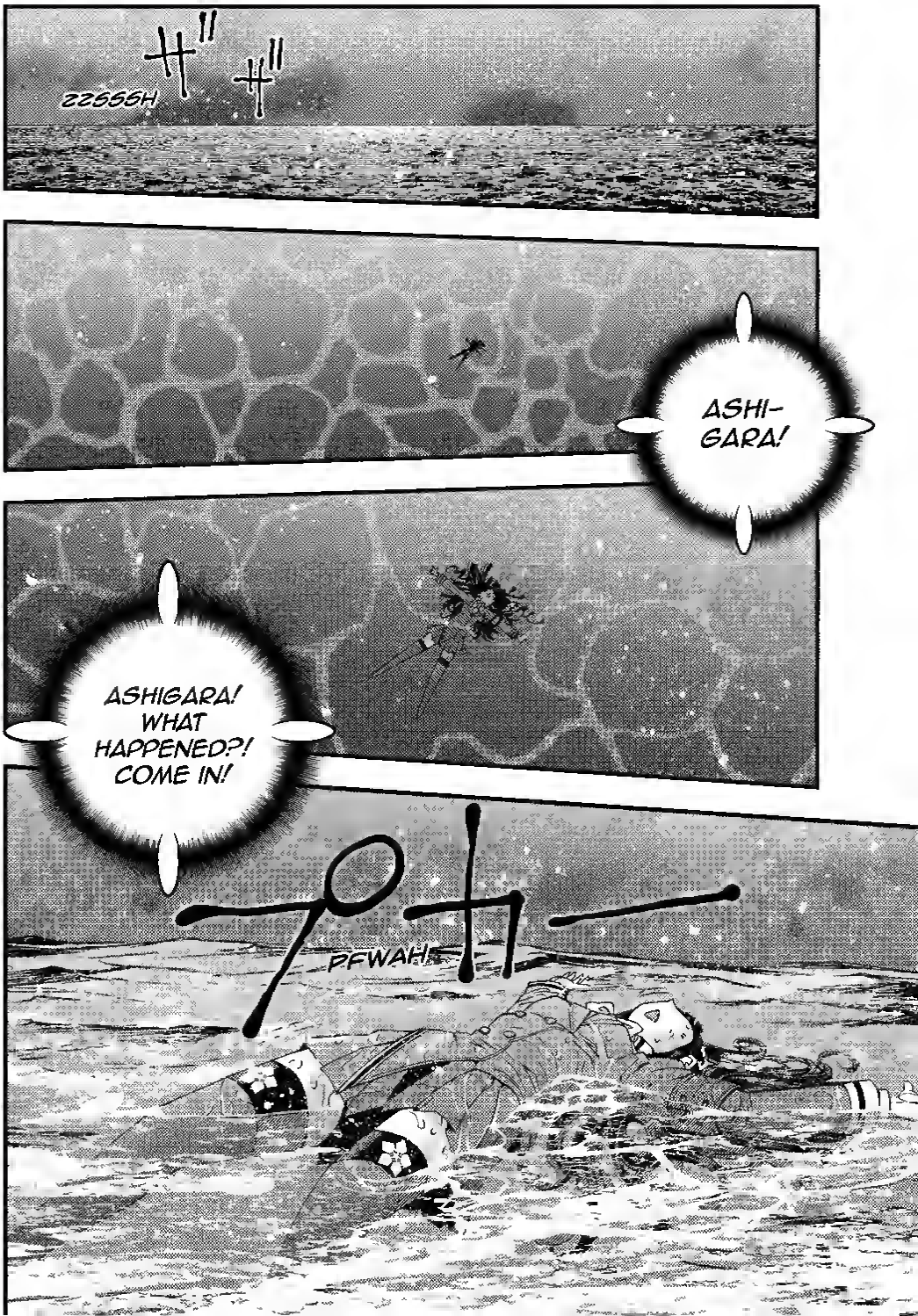

PING


I-401
I-401
I-401
SHE USED AN ACTIVE DECOY!
CLICK
CLICK
ASHIGARA!
I KNOW! THERE ARE THREE 401S!


BUT 401, I'VE ANALYZED YOUR TACTICS FROM KIRISHIMA'S BATTLE!
I KNOW YOU'RE HIDING IN THE RUBBLE!

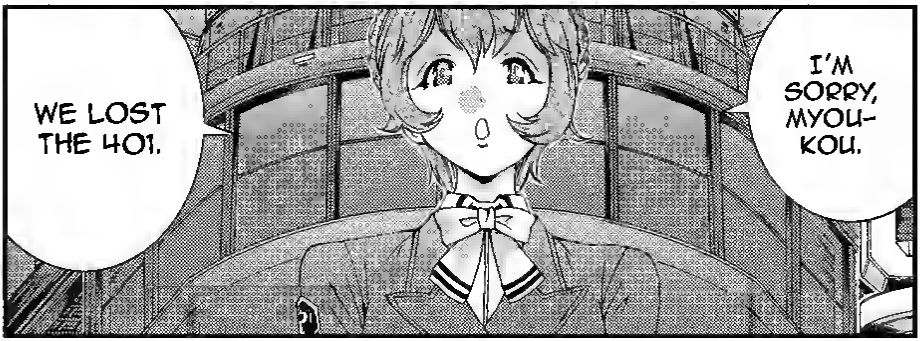
HOW DO YOU LIKE THAT?
BOOM!

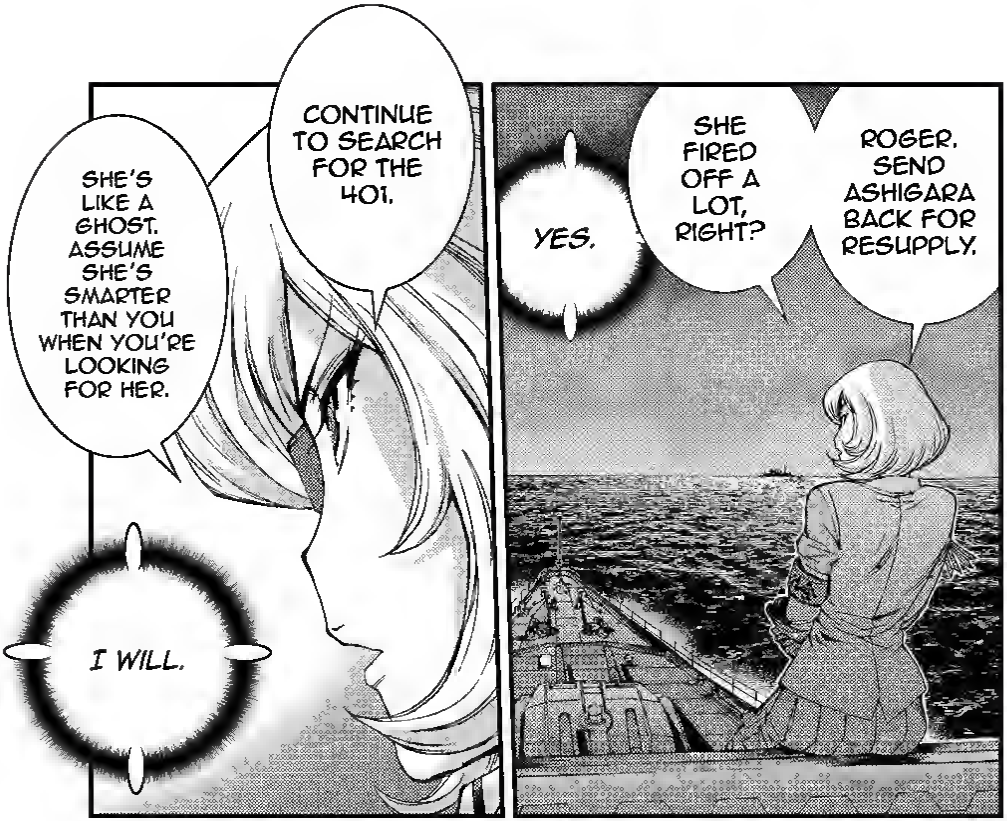
PASHOOM
!?
KREEE

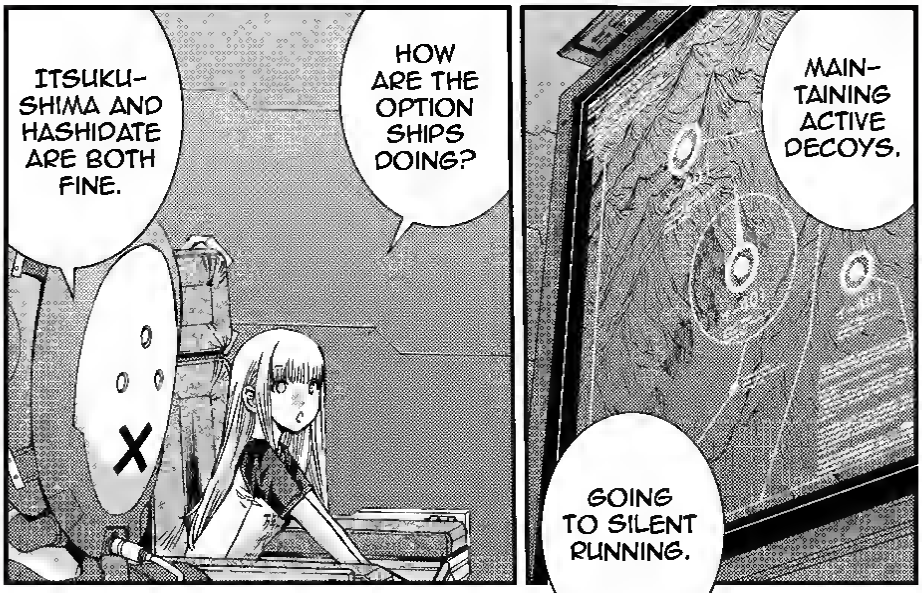

ZZSSSH
ASHI-GARA!
ASHIGARA! WHAT HAPPENED?! COME IN!
PFWAH!

WAH HA HA HA!
SPLASH
SPLISH
ASHI-GARA...
I OVER-THOUGHT IT. THE DECOYS WERE THE RIGHT ANSWER...
SHE GOT ME WITHOUT TAKING ANY DAMAGE AT ALL.
SHE USED LOW-FREQUENCY WARHEADS SO I COULDN'T SENSE THE THANATONI-UM...

SO THAT'S WHAT...
...A MENTAL MODEL WITH A LOT OF EXPERIENCE POINTS CAN DO, HUH?
THWOOM
AWW, DANG IT!
SPLASH
SPLASH
SPLASH

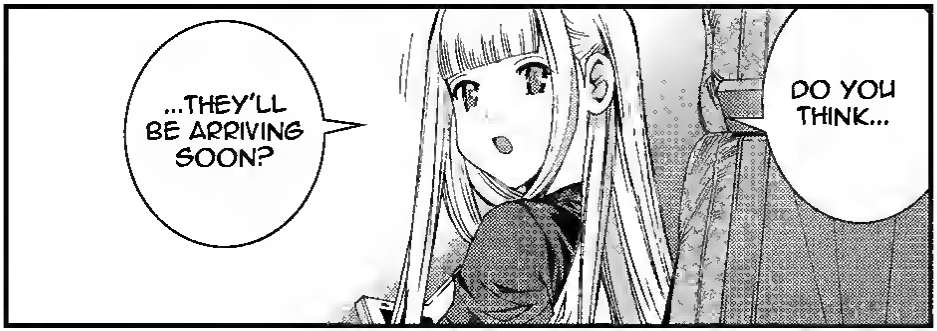

I'M SORRY, MYOU-KOU.
WE LOST THE 401.

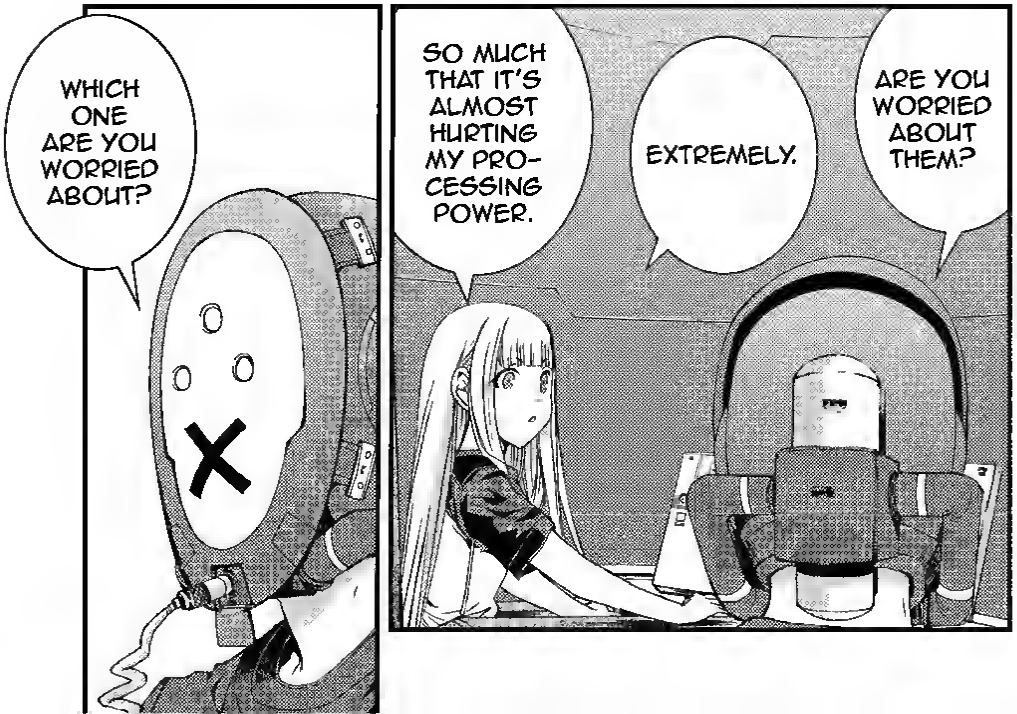

CONTINUE TO SEARCH FOR THE 401.
SHE'S LIKE A GHOST. ASSUME SHE'S SMARTER THAN YOU WHEN YOU'RE LOOKING FOR HER.
I WILL.
ROGER. SEND ASHIGARA BACK FOR RESUPPLY.
SHE FIRED OFF A LOT, RIGHT?
YES.


HOW ARE THE OPTION SHIPS DOING?
ITSUKUSHIMA AND HASHIDATE ARE BOTH FINE.
MAINTAINING ACTIVE DECOYS.
GOING TO SILENT RUNNING.

THEY DON'T SEEM TO HAVE NOTICED WHERE THE OPTION SHIPS ARE STATIONED, EITHER.
THE SHIPS ABOVE APPEAR TO HAVE LOST US.
THOSE SHIPS ONLY HAVE THEIR IMPORTANT PARTS MADE OUT OF NANOMATERIAL. YOU COULD CALL THEM HYBRID SHIPS.
WHEN DO WE CALL THOSE THINGS OVER TO US?
THEY'RE POWERFUL IF WE CAN USE THEM, BUT THE CONDITIONS REQUIRED FOR THAT ARE DIFFICULT.
AND THEY DON'T GO FAST ENOUGH EITHER, SO THEY'RE LIKELY TO BE FOUND AND SUNK.
Itsukushima
Hoshidate
THEY'RE NOT AS STEALTHY AS NANOMATERIAL VESSELS...
...AND THEY CAN'T GO AS DEEP EITHER. IF WE MOVE THEM, THEY'LL LIKELY BE SPOTTED.

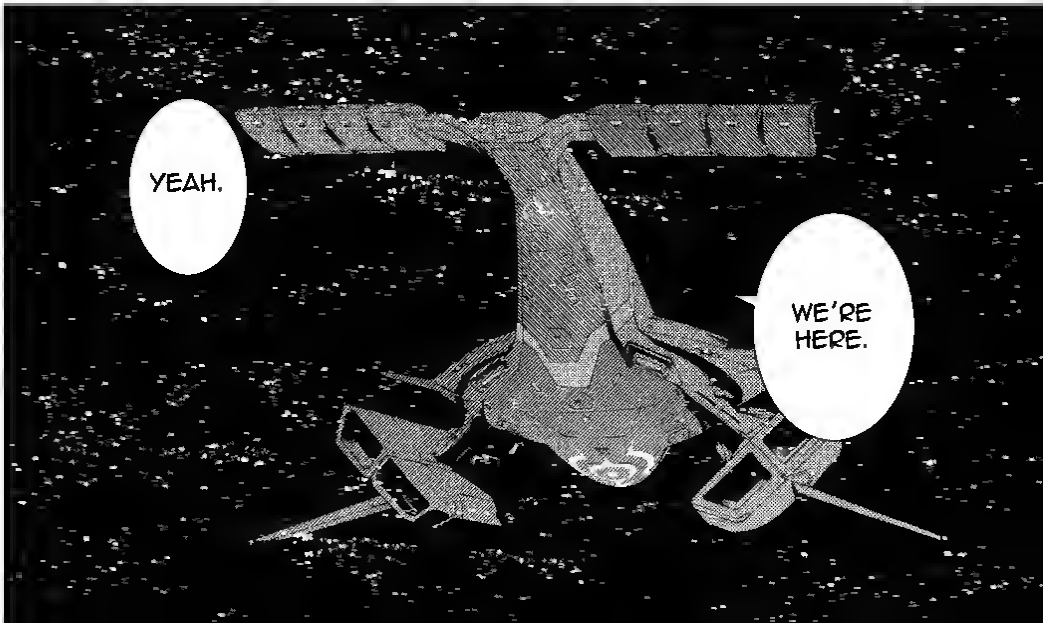
ほほほほ
HA HA HA HA HA!
THOSE SHIPS WERE PROBABLY BORN OUT OF THAT MECH-FETISHIST'S ATTEMPTS TO KILL SOME TIME.
THERE'S A LOT OF ROOM FOR IMPROVE-MENT.


DO YOU THINK...
...THEY'LL BE ARRIVING SOON?

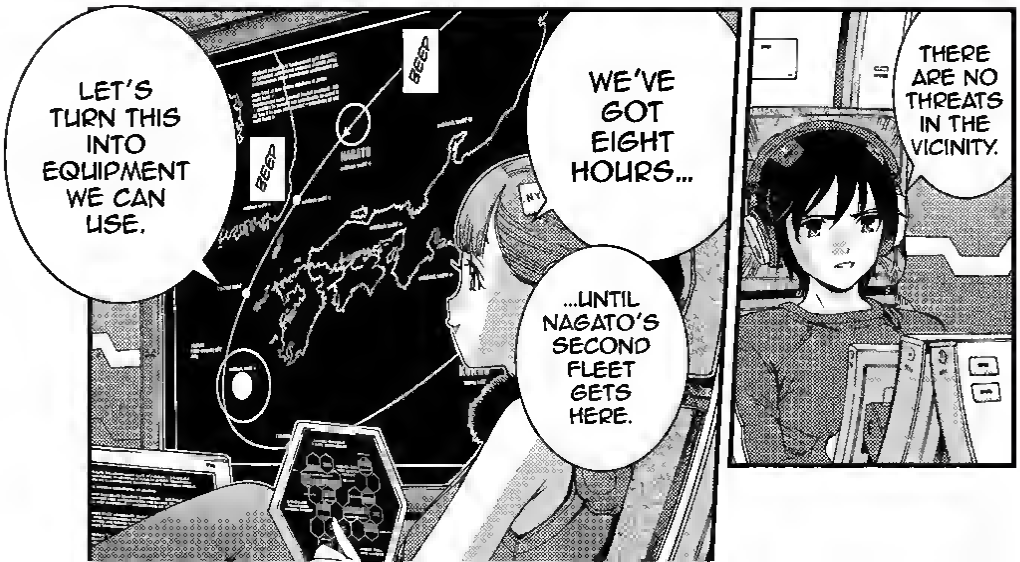

ARE YOU WORRIED ABOUT THEM?
EXTREMELY.
SO MUCH THAT IT'S ALMOST HURTING MY PRO-CESSING POWER.
WHICH ONE ARE YOU WORRIED ABOUT?

...SO MUCH AS I AM ABOUT THE FACT THAT THEY'RE WORKING TOGETHER...
I'M NOT WORRIED ABOUT EITHER OF THEM...

RIGHT?
THAT IS... A CONCERN, YES.

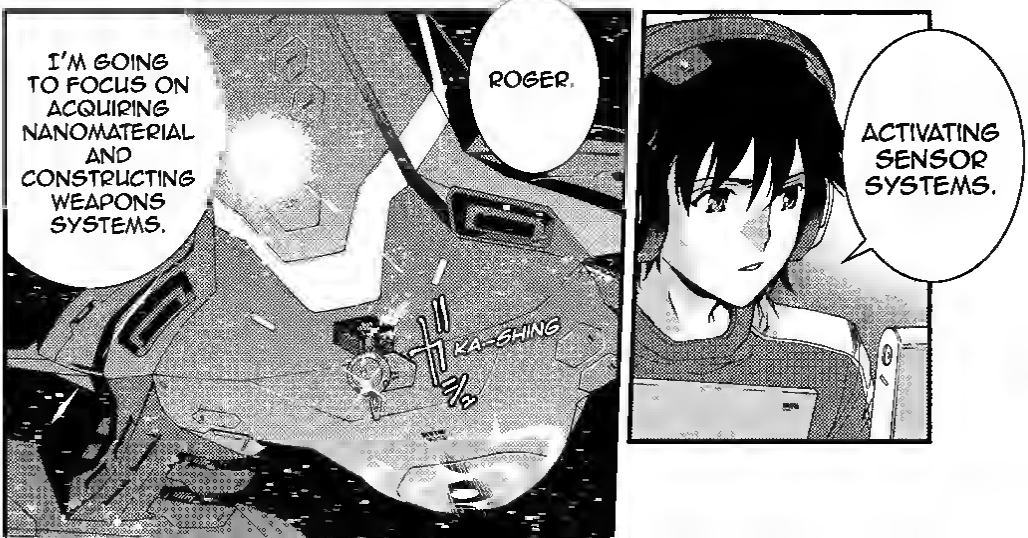

YEAH.
WE'RE HERE.

THIS IS ALL THAT'S LEFT, THOUGH.

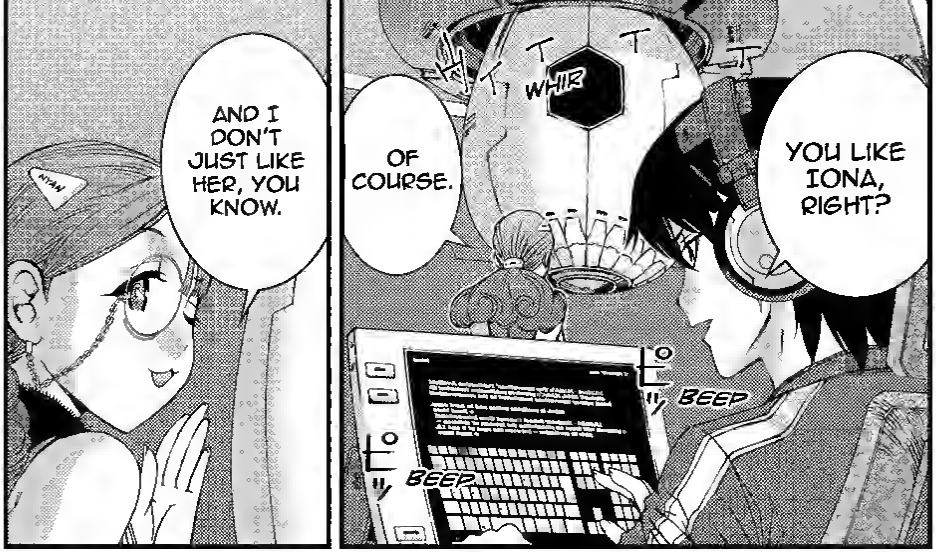

LET'S TURN THIS INTO EQUIPMENT WE CAN USE.
BEEP
BEEP
WE'VE GOT EIGHT HOURS...
...UNTIL NAGATO'S SECOND FLEET GETS HERE.
THERE ARE NO THREATS IN THE VICINITY.

RUMBLE
THE MATERIAL FOR THE TWO DESTROYERS YOU SUNK ALONG WITH ME...
...SHOULD BE AROUND HERE TOO.

THE DESTROYER CORES WERE RECOVERED, SO...
...I DON'T THINK THEY LOOK MUCH LIKE SHIPS ANYMORE.
MOST OF IT IS LIKELY INACTIVE NANO-MATERIAL NOW.

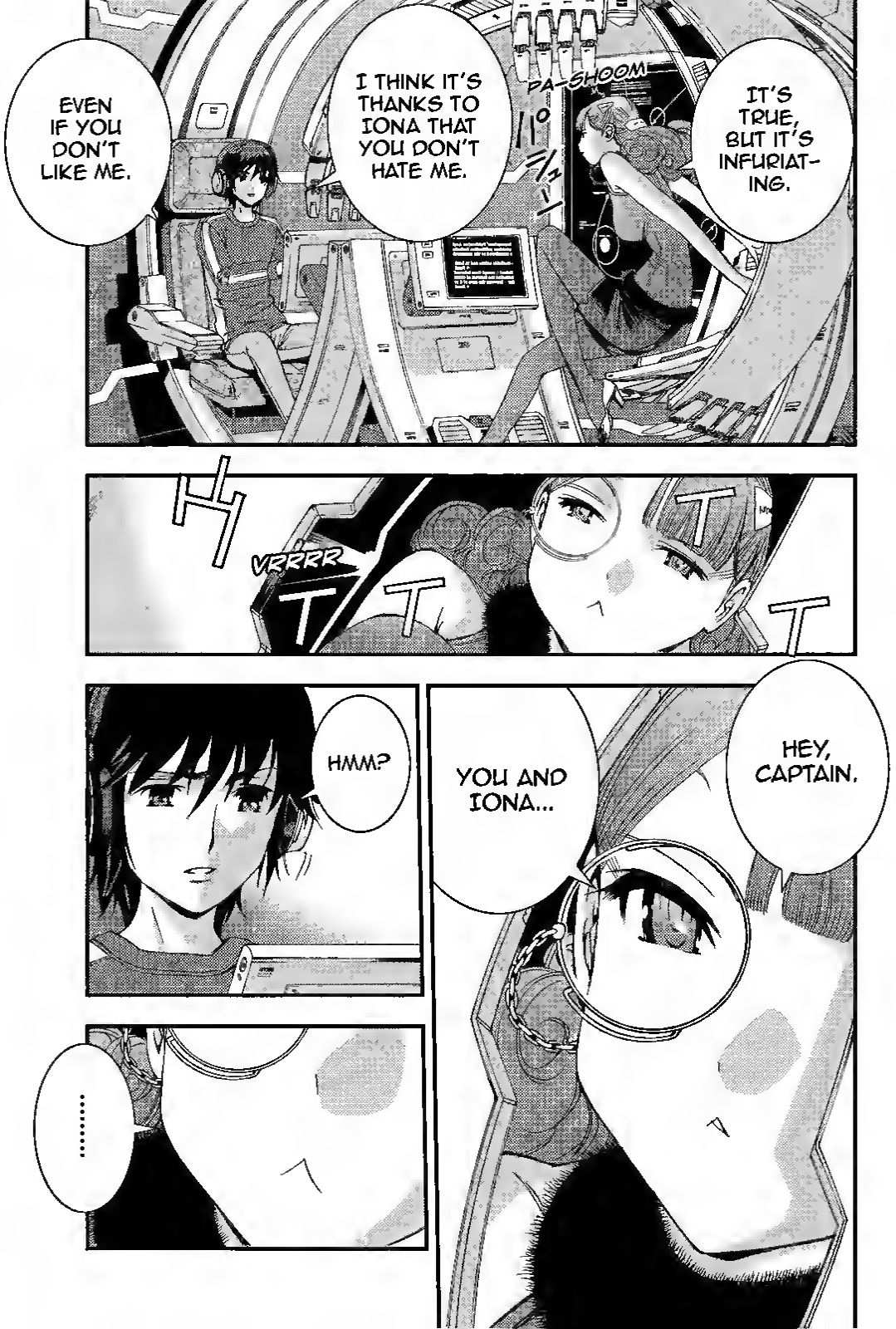

ACTIVATING SENSOR SYSTEMS.
ROGER.
I'M GOING TO FOCUS ON ACQUIRING NANOMATERIAL AND CONSTRUCTING WEAPONS SYSTEMS.
KA-SHING

KLAK
YEAH. I'LL CONTACT THE HAKUGEI, TOO.
YOU LOOK FOR MATERIAL THAT'S STILL ACTIVE AND KEEP AN EYE OUT.
THANKS.
.....
WHY DID YOU ACCEPT MY SUGGES-TION?
I HAVEN'T GIVEN IN TO YOU YET.
I MIGHT BE TRICKING YOU.
BEEP
BEEP
...CAN I ASK YOU SOME-THING?
HEY, IT MAY BE A LITTLE LATE FOR THIS, BUT...
TUP
TUP
GO AHEAD.


AND I DON'T JUST LIKE HER, YOU KNOW.
HMM
OF COURSE.
WHIR
YOU LIKE IONA, RIGHT?
BEEP
BEEP

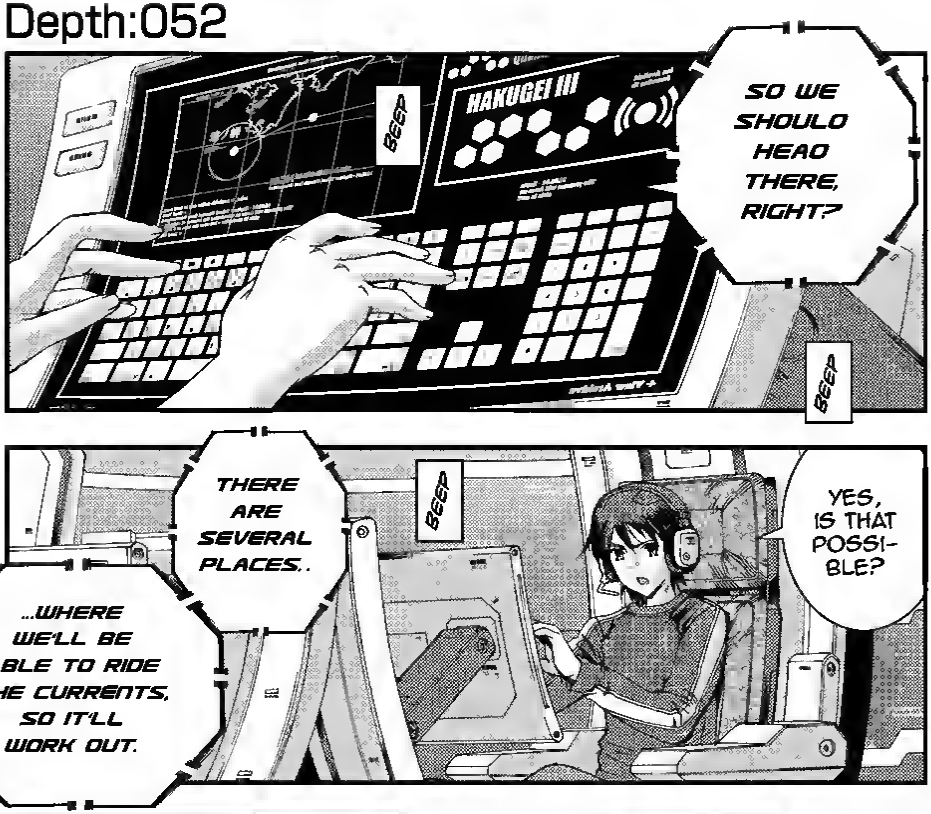
BEEP
I'M VERY FOND OF MY SHIP TOO.
BEEP

...OUR INTERESTS ARE ALIGNED, RIGHT?
SO...
.....
BEEP
BEEP


EVEN IF YOU DON'T LIKE ME.
I THINK IT'S THANKS TO IONA THAT YOU DON'T HATE ME.
PA-SHOOM
IT'S TRUE, BUT IT'S INFURIAT-ING.
VRRRR
HMM?
YOU AND IONA...
HEY, CAPTAIN.
.....

HIGG
NOW'S NOT THE TIME.
LET'S TABLE THAT THOUGHT.
.....
...HYUUGA.
I'VE NEVER SEEN YOU UPSET LIKE THIS...
THIS TRIP...
...IS GOING TO BE FULL OF FIRSTS FOR BOTH OF US
Depth:051 / END

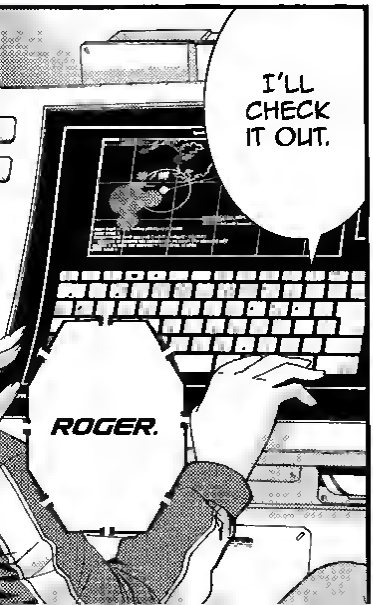
Depth:052

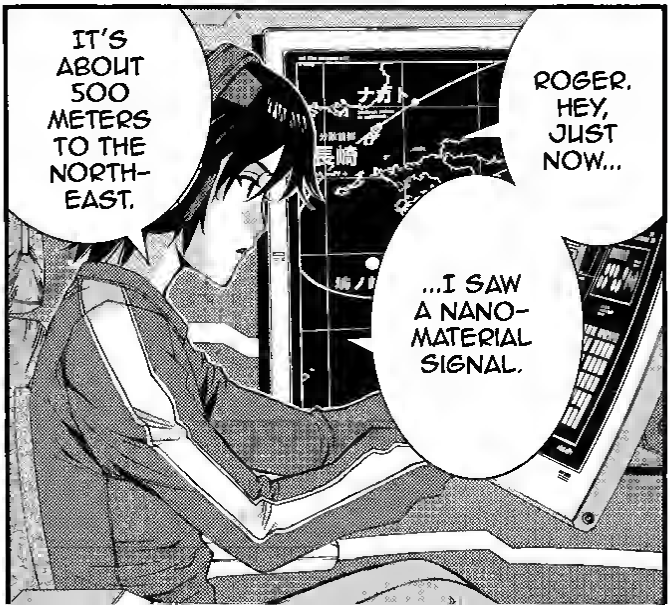

HAKUGEI III
BEEP
SO WE SHOULD HEAD THERE, RIGHT?
BEEP
BEEP
YES, IS THAT POSSI-BLE?
THERE ARE SEVERAL PLACES..
...WHERE WE'LL BE ABLE TO RIDE THE CURRENTS, SO IT'LL WORK OUT.
GWOOOM
IF YOU'RE GOING TO OVERLAP WITH THAT...
...IT MAY BE BEST TO STOP AND WAIT.
THE ANALYSIS HYUUGA AND I DID...
...SHOWS THAT A MAJOR FOG FLEET WILL BE PASS-ING THROUGH THIS AREA IN ABOUT EIGHT HOURS.
Nagato
Saiki Capital
Nagasaki
Cape Bou

WE'LL KEEP YOU APPRISED OF OUR ARRIVAL TIME.
ROGER.
WE'LL SEND YOU UPDATES ON THE SONAR AND SENSOR DATA FOR THE MEETING POINT...
...IN REAL-TIME VIA QUANTUM COMMUNI-CATION.
HYUUGA...
THE HAKUGEI IS COMING VIA THE PLAN WE MADE.
I HOPE THAT HELPS YOU.
Quantum Communication
HAKUGEI III
THANKS. SEE YOU SOON.

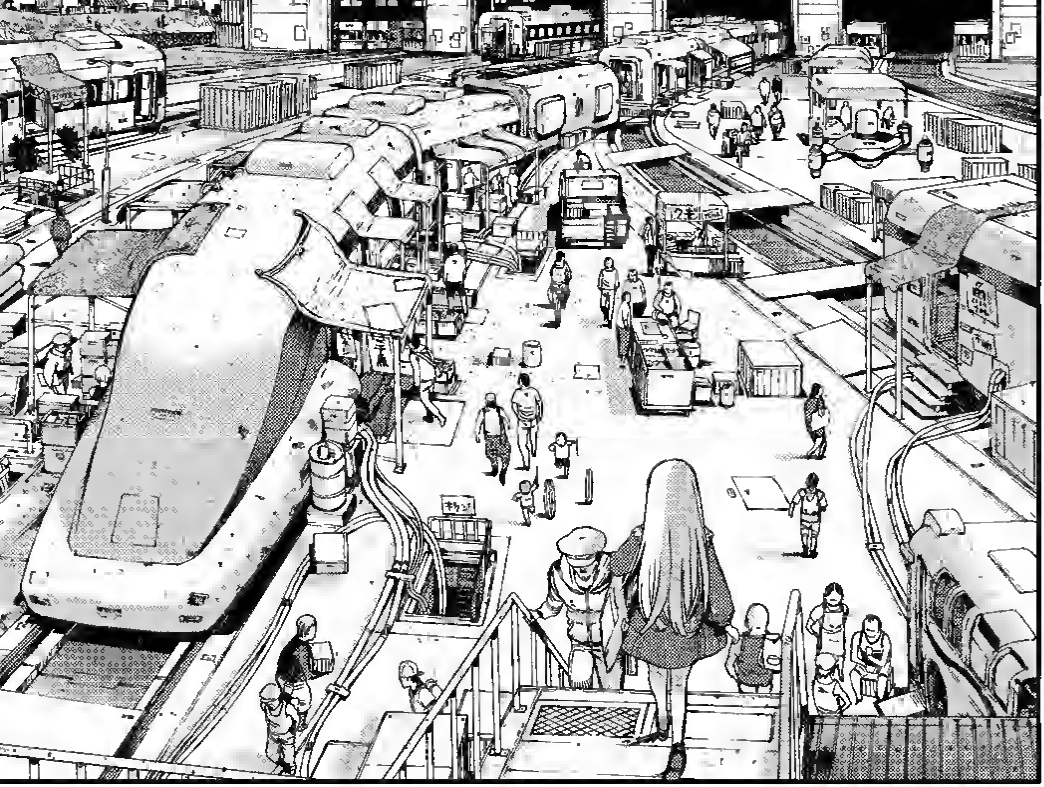
CLICK
CLICK
ROGER
THINGS ARE GOING FINE HERE, TOO

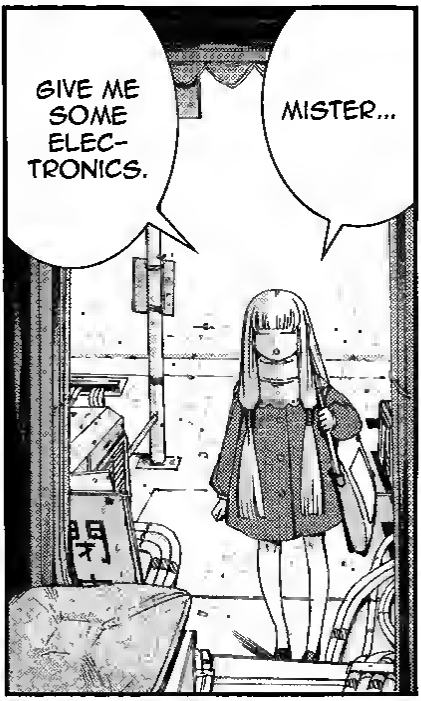
CLICK
CLICK
...SO SHE WON'T NOTICE US.
WHEN NAGATO GETS HERE, I'LL STOP WORK FOR A LITTLE...


I'LL CHECK IT OUT.
ROGER.


IT'S ABOUT 500 METERS TO THE NORTH-EAST.
ROGER. HEY, JUST NOW...
...I SAW A NANO-MATERIAL SIGNAL.
ナガト
長崎

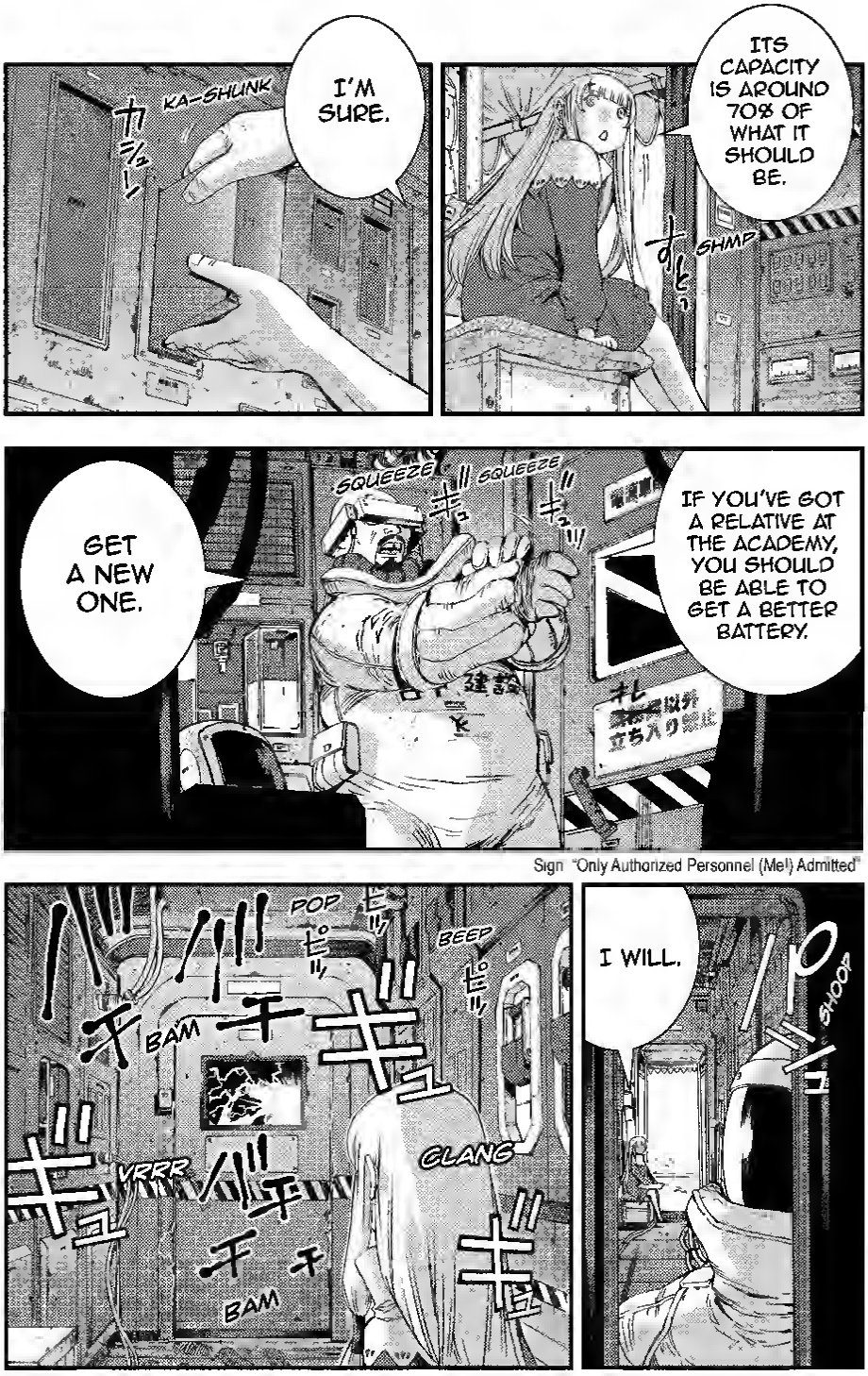
FORTRESS PORT
YOKOSUKA
TUP
TUP
LINER
WHIRR



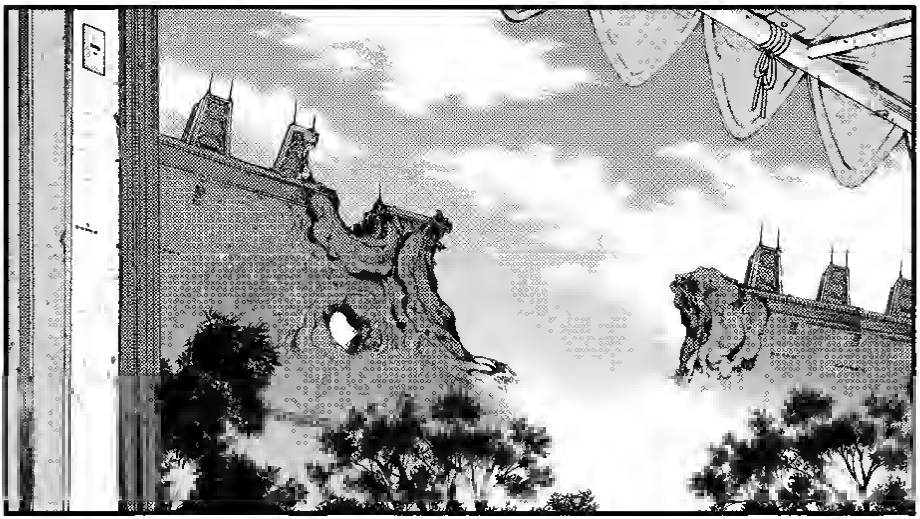


Sign: "Dangerous! Electronic-"

...YOU'RE ABLE TO RELOCATE FREELY.
THAT'S THE ONLY WAY...
YES.
THE ACADEMY? THE UNIFIED MARINE TECHNICAL ACADEMY?
HEH, AIN'T THAT THE TRUTH.
カチ CLICK
THAT MAKES HER PRETTY ELITE, HUH?
HERE.
ゴー CLANG
WHAT KIND OF BATTERY DO YOU HAVE?
I JUST MOVED, SO I DON'T HAVE ENOUGH ELECTRICITY WITH WHAT THEY'VE GIVEN ME.
CLANG ゴ
IT'S IN PRETTY BAD SHAPE, HUH?
A KBI 2000 FROM 2046, HUH? I HAVEN'T SEEN ONE OF THESE IN FOREVER.



Sign "Only Authorized Personnel (Me!) Admitted"

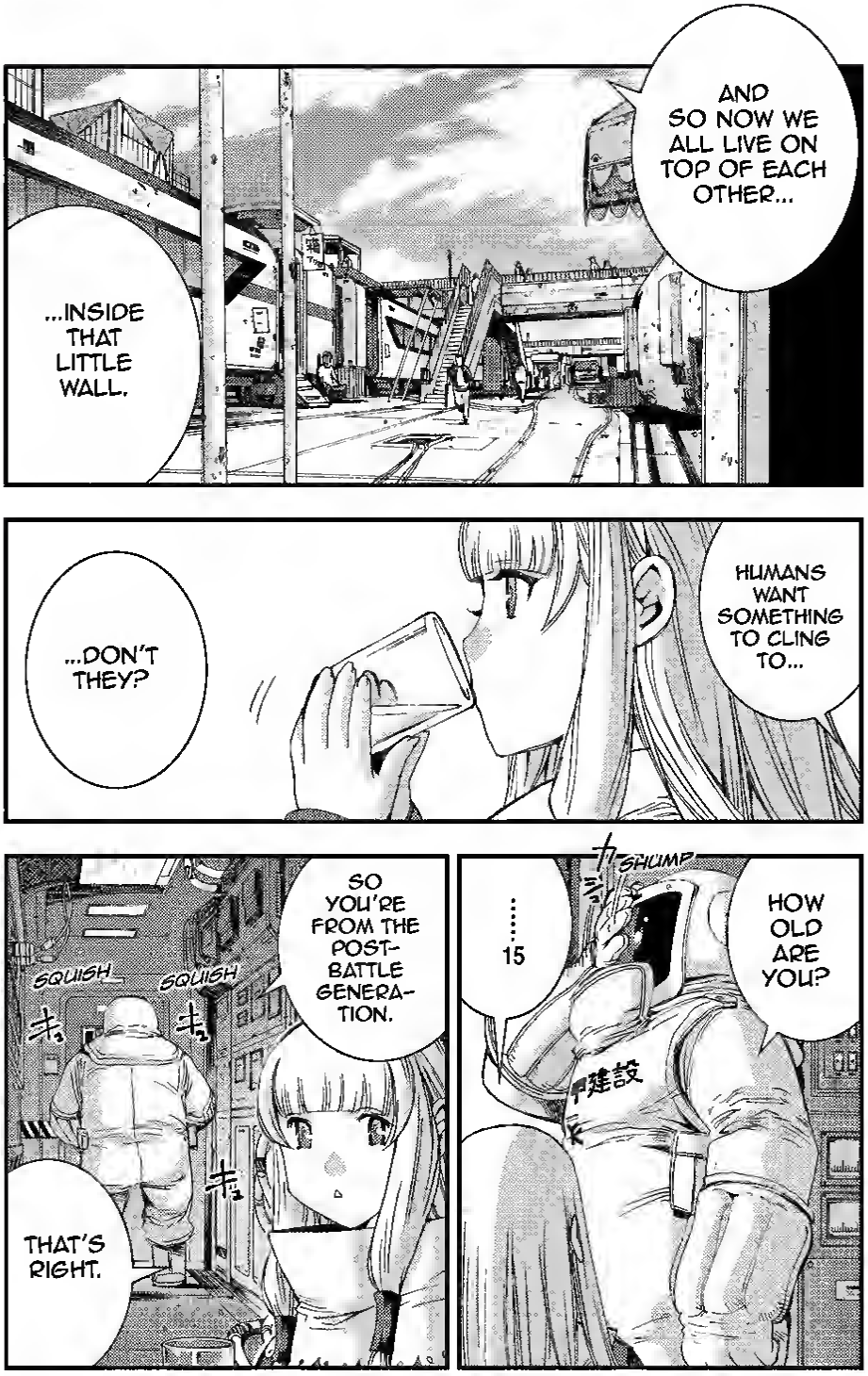


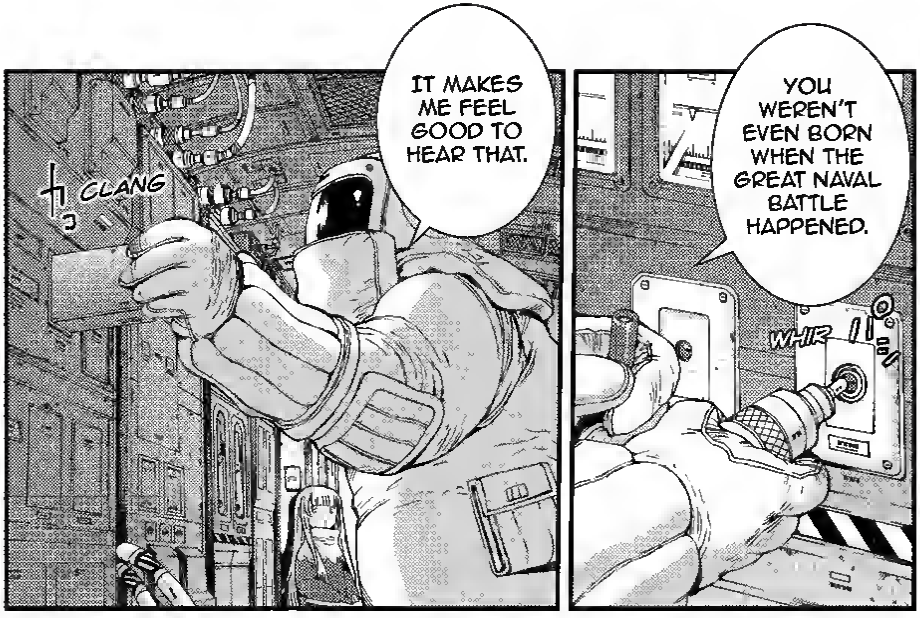
POP
POP
QUITE A SIGHT, HUH?
POP

CLANG
IF YOU'RE FROM THE COUNTRYSIDE, IT MUST BE A NEW THING FOR YOU.
POP
POP
POP
I'VE NEVER SEEN IT BEFORE.
WAS THAT FROM THE LARGE BATTLESHIP FIGHT EARLIER?
YEAH.
WAS THAT WALL USEFUL AT ALL?
HMM?
OH, NOT AT ALL.
WE SEE IT EVERY DAY, SO IT'S NOT THAT INTERESTING TO US ANYMORE.
BEEP
IF YOU CLIMB UP, YOU CAN SEE THE REMAINS OF THE LARGE BATTLE-SHIPS.

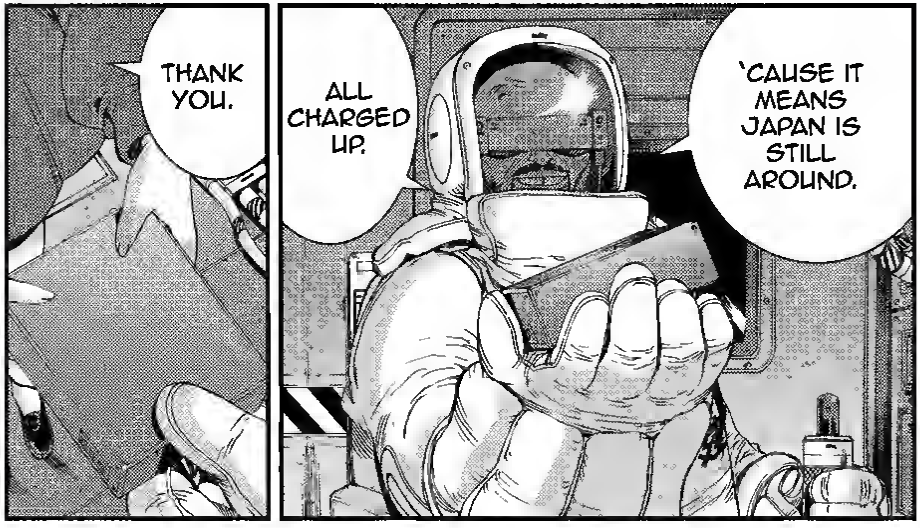
THEN...
I SEE.
WHY DID YOU MAKE IT?
...EVEN BACK WHEN WE MADE IT.
VRRRR
WELL, WE KNEW THAT...
FEEL BETTER?
WE BUILT IT TO MAKE OUR-SELVES FEEL BETTER.
IT'S NOT REALLY A DEFENSIVE WALL.

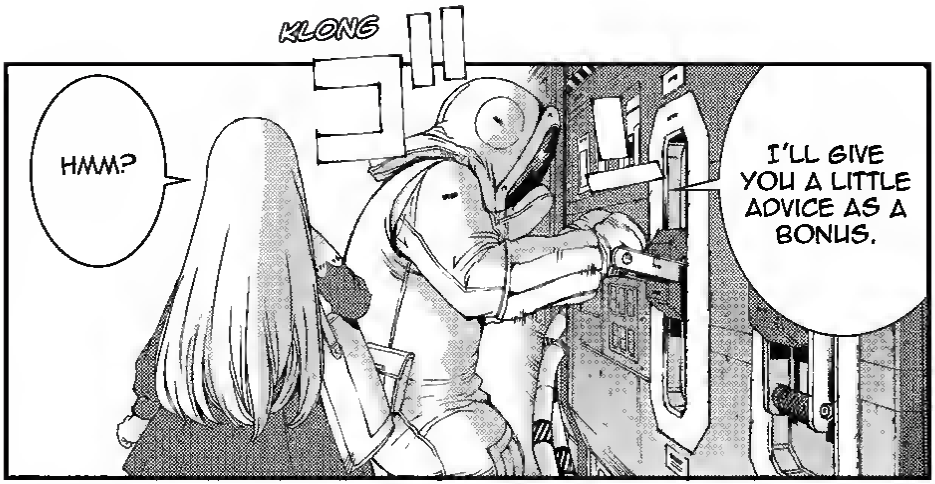
THE PLAN WAS EVENTUALLY TO MAKE WALLS FOR 17 MAJOR CITIES.
I WAS WORKING ON IT AT THE TIME.
WE STARTED CONSTRUCTING IT BEFORE THE GREAT NAVAL BATTLE.
SQUISH
SQUISH
SQUISH
...OF THE FOG BLOCK-ADE?
BE-CAUSE...
SNIFF SNIFF
...THAT GOT FINISHED.
BUT YOKOSUKA WAS THE ONLY ONE...
IT COST A LOT OF LIVES, BUT WE FINALLY GOT IT DONE.
YEAH. NEAR THE END, WE WEREN'T SURE WE'D BE ABLE TO FINISH IT.
GLUG
GLUG


AND SO NOW WE ALL LIVE ON TOP OF EACH OTHER...
...INSIDE THAT LITTLE WALL.
HUMANS WANT SOMETHING TO CLING TO...
...DON'T THEY?
SQUISH
SQUISH
SO YOU'RE FROM THE POST-BATTLE GENERATION.
THAT'S RIGHT.
SHUMP
HOW OLD ARE YOU?
15
建設


IT MAKES ME FEEL GOOD TO HEAR THAT.
CLANG
YOU WEREN'T EVEN BORN WHEN THE GREAT NAVAL BATTLE HAPPENED.
WHIR

WHY?


THANK YOU.
ALL CHARGED UP.
'CAUSE IT MEANS JAPAN IS STILL AROUND.


KLONG
HMM?
I'LL GIVE YOU A LITTLE ADVICE AS A BONUS.

...GO TO MR. RYOUKAN KITA.
IF YOU'RE EVER IN TROUBLE...
KLANG

Sign "Kita"

HE'S A MEMBER OF THE DIET.
YEAH.
北

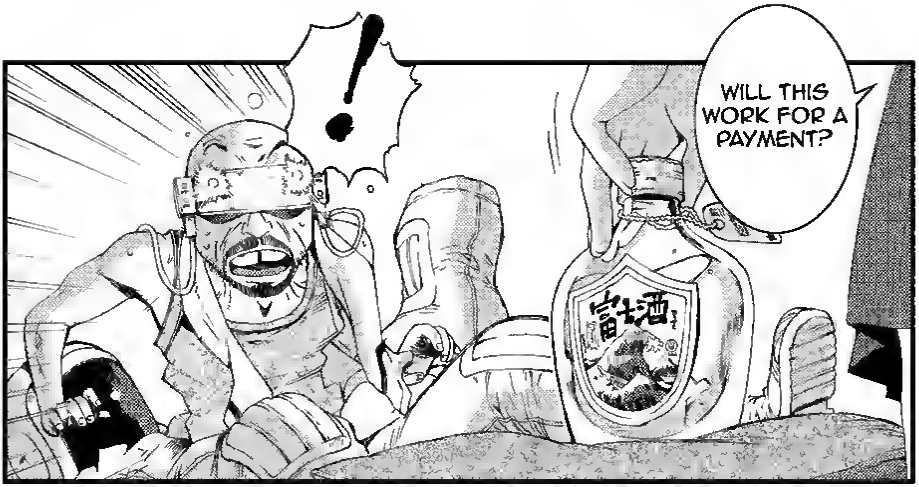
RYOU-KAN...
...KITA?

HE'S A HARSH MAN, BUT HE DOESN'T TREAT ANYBODY AS LESS THAN HIS EQUAL.
THE PEOPLE HERE OWE HIM A LOT.
HE WAS THE CAPTAIN OF AN ARMY SHIP.
AN ARMY SHIP?
THE ARMY HAS SHIPS?
YEAH. WHEN THE MILITARY WAS STILL A SELF-DEFENSE FORCE, THE ARMY HAD ITS OWN SHIPS IT BUILT...
...AND IT ASKED THE NAVAL SELF-DEFENSE FORCES TO DISPATCH THEIR LEADERS TO THEM.

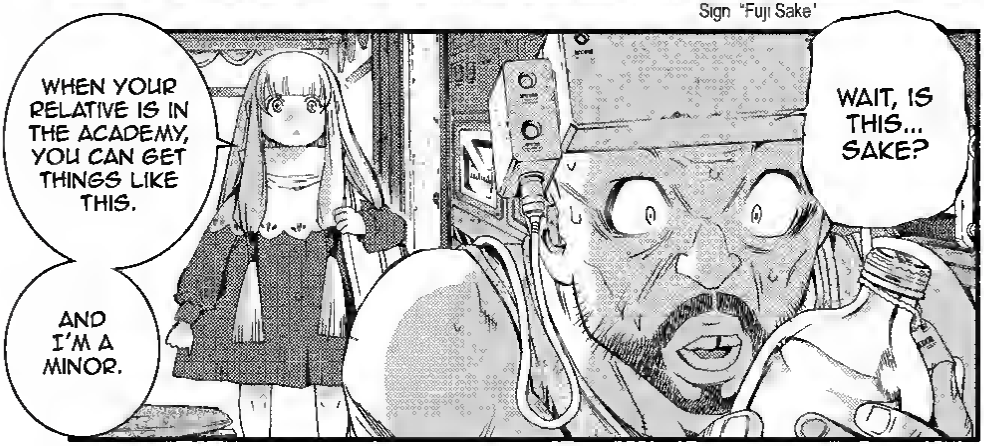
YEAH, HE BECAME CAPTAIN OF THE MISSILE DESTROYER BUILT BY THE ARMY--THE AKITSUMARU.
AND ONE OF THE PEOPLE SENT...
...WAS MR. KITA?
PRIDE AND STUB-BORN-NESS...
PRIDE AND STUB-BORN-NESS.
WHY WOULD THE LAND SELF-DEFENSE FORCES BUILD A DESTROY-ER?
EVERYBODY WANTED TO PARTICIPATE IN THE BATTLE TO DECIDE HUMANITY'S FATE.
EVERYONE WAS SO STUBBORN BACK THEN.

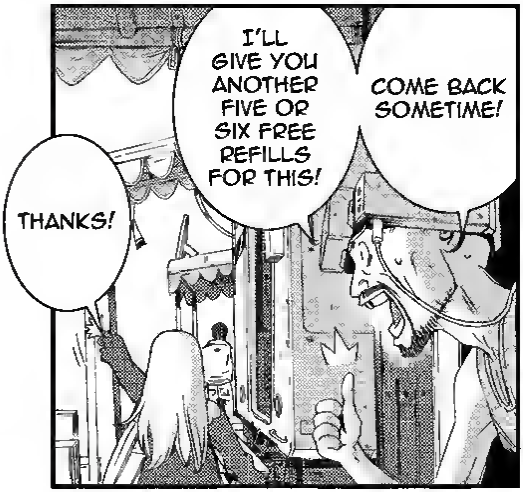
THEY DIDN'T WANT TO BE LEFT OUT.
THE LAND FORCES WANTED TO CONTRIBUTE TO THE GREAT NAVAL BATTLE. THAT WAS WHY.
CLICK
.....
...SO THERE WERE STILL PLENTY OF MATERIALS.
AT THE TIME, THE FOG'S NAVAL BLOCKADE WASN'T COMPLETE...
HUH?
NOBU-YOSHI KAEDE?
CLICK
CLICK
CLICK
LAND SELF-DEFENSE FORCE MISSILE DESTROYER AKITSUMARU.
CAPTAIN: RYOUKAN KITA. XO: NOBUYOSHI KAEDE.
CLICK

HE'D ALREADY LEFT THE NAVY WHEN MR. KITA CALLED HIM BACK...
YEAH. THE CENTRAL SECTOR PRIME MINISTER WAS KITA'S XO.
IT WAS A VERY POLITICAL SHIP.
THE AKITSUMARU HAD THE LAND FORCES' BEST OFFICERS AND LEADERS FROM THE NJSDF.
AND HE WENT TO THE AKITSU-MARU.
I SUPPOSE YOU WEREN'T BORN AT THE TIME, THOUGH.
IT WAS HUGE NEWS WHEN THE AKITSU-MARU CAME BACK ALIVE AFTER THE GREAT NAVAL BATTLE.
YOU KNOW A LOT ABOUT IT.
.....
RUSTLE
RUSTLE



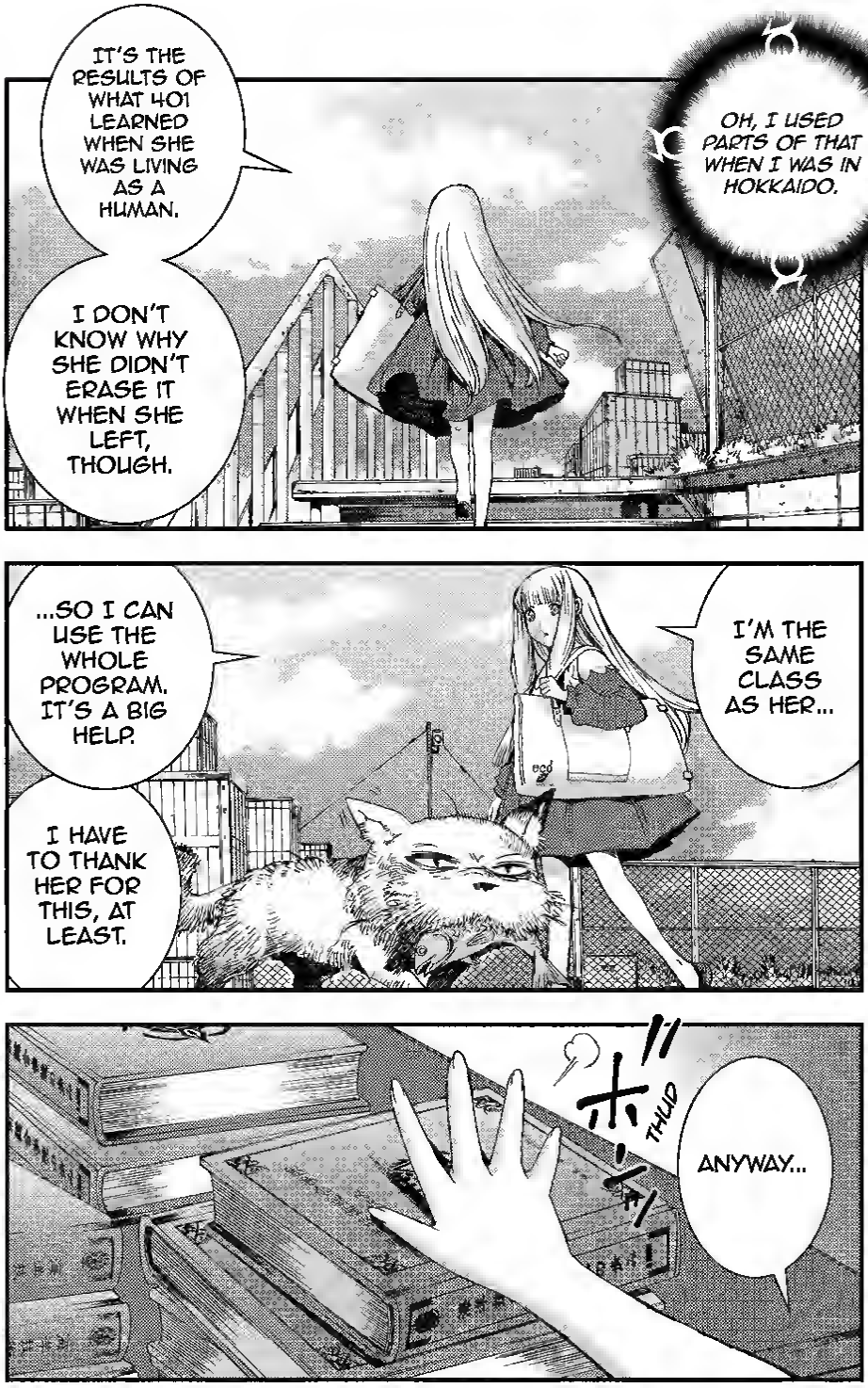
Sign "Fuji Sake"





...WHAT IT IS WE'RE DOING RIGHT NOW.
SO I WANT TO KNOW...
VRRR
THAT'S RIGHT.
WE WEREN'T EVEN BORN YET.
UNMANNED VEHICLES WILL BE DISTRIBUTING FOOD IN THIS AREA.
CLANG
CLANG
THIS IS THE FOOD MANAGE-MENT OFFICE.
Sign "Food Management Office"
Sign "Fingerprint ID"
TODAY'S RATION IS 780 CALORIES.
BEEP

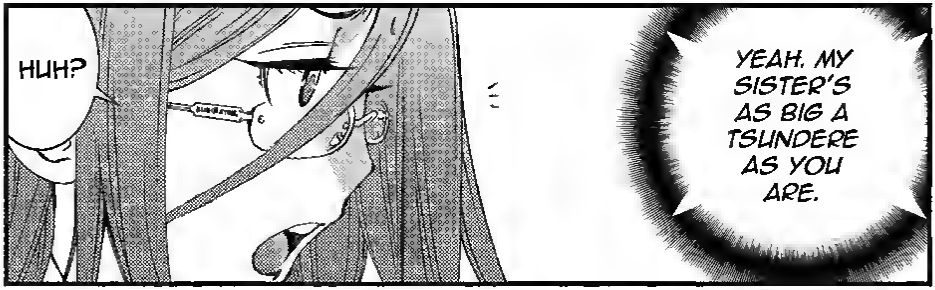
...WITH VITAMINS AND CALCIUM ADDED.
ENJOY A DELICIOUS LUNCH MADE OF ARTIFICIAL INGREDIENTS...
TAKAO.
YOU'RE REALLY GETTING GOOD AT ACTING HUMAN.
I'M USING THE ACTION LOGIC PROGRAM THAT 401 MADE...
...AND UPLOADED TO THE TACTICAL NETWORK BEFORE.
eco

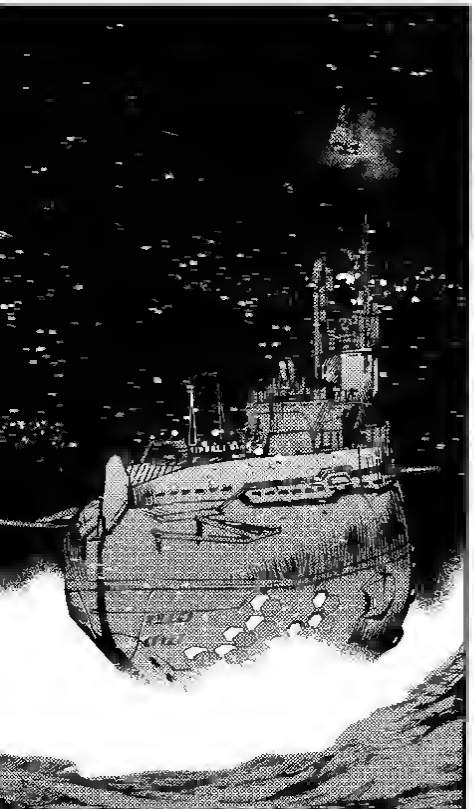

IT'S THE RESULTS OF WHAT 401 LEARNED WHEN SHE WAS LIVING AS A HUMAN.
I DON'T KNOW WHY SHE DIDN'T ERASE IT WHEN SHE LEFT, THOUGH.
OH, I USED PARTS OF THAT WHEN I WAS IN HOKKAIDO.
...SO I CAN USE THE WHOLE PROGRAM. IT'S A BIG HELP.
I HAVE TO THANK HER FOR THIS, AT LEAST.
I'M THE SAME CLASS AS HER...
THUD
ANYWAY...

ARE KIRISHIMA AND HARUNA...
...REALLY COMING HERE TO THE ACADEMY?
ALL RIGHT.
YEAH. 400 HAS BEEN WATCHING THEIR MOVEMENTS.
ENSURE THAT KIRISHIMA AND HARUNA DON'T MAKE IT TO FACILITY FOUR.
AND WHEN THAT'S DONE, YOU'RE REALLY GOING TO LET ME GO, RIGHT?
YEAH.

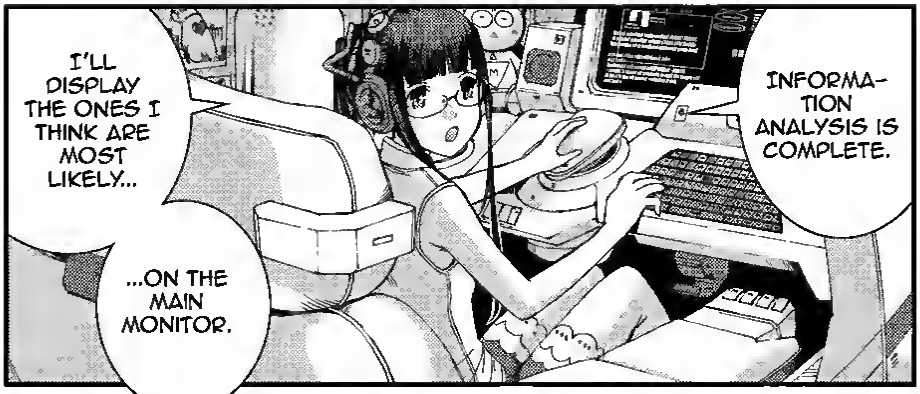
I'M SO BORED...
THEN I HOPE THEY COME SOON.
SMACK
CLATTER
WHAT HAPPENED TO THE PHOTOS OF GUNZOU CHIHAYA WHEN HE WAS THERE?
GASP
GASP
GASP
OH, I GUESSED RIGHT THEN?
YOU WERE WATCHING ME THAT CLOSELY?
THERE'S ALL KINDS OF RECORDS FROM WHEN HE WAS THERE, RIGHT?

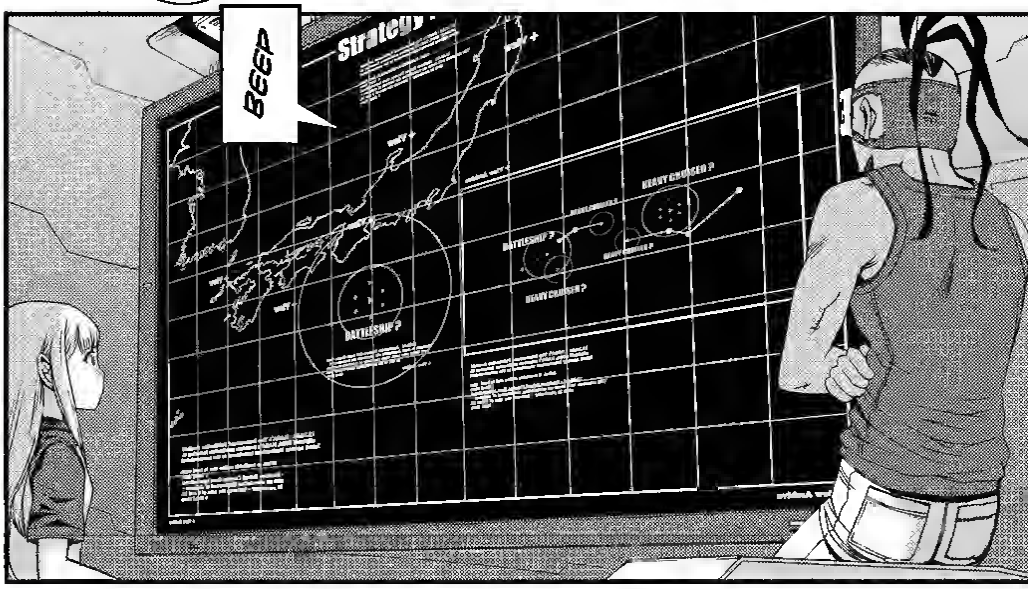
SHE'S GOT A NASTY PERSON-ALITY.
THAT GIRL...
I USED 401'S ACTION LOGIC PROGRAM TO SET A TRAP FOR YOU.

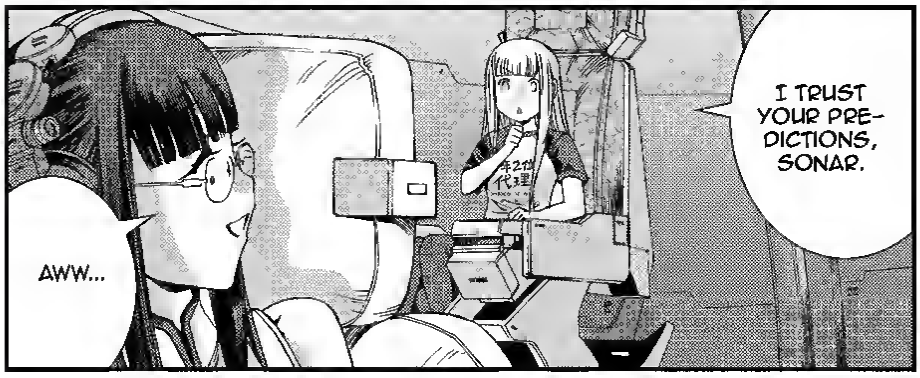

HUH?
YEAH. MY SISTER'S AS BIG A TSUNDERE AS YOU ARE.



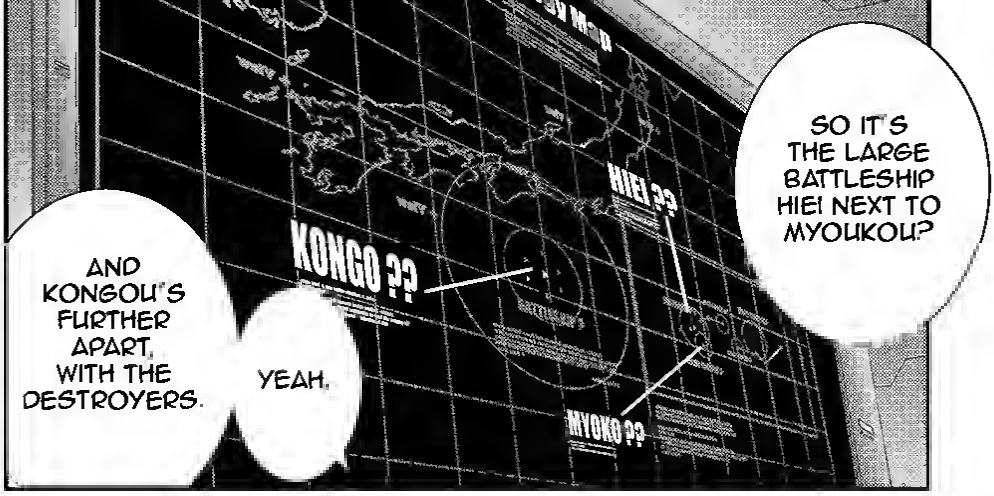
I NEED TO ACT HUMAN, AFTER ALL.
ANYWAY, I'M GOING HOME.


I'LL DISPLAY THE ONES I THINK ARE MOST LIKELY...
...ON THE MAIN MONITOR.
INFORMATION ANALYSIS IS COMPLETE.


BEEP
Strategy
BATTLESHIP ?
HEAVY CRUISER ?
BATTLESHIP ?
HEAVY CRUISER ?


I TRUST YOUR PREDICTIONS, SONAR.
AWW...

I THINK SO.
IS THE ONE IN THE BACK THE ONE WE JUST GOT? THE ASHIGARA?
HEAVY CRUISER
BEEP
NACHI??
YEAH.
SO IT'S NACHI LEADING THE REMAINING DESTROYERS?
BEEP
HEAVY CRUISER ?
HAGURO ??
HEAVY CRUISER ?
ASHIGARA ??
MYOUKOU'S PROBABLY TAKING COMMAND, WHICH MEANS IT'S HAGURO.
IT'S EITHER MYOUKOU OR HAGURO HEADING TOWARD US.

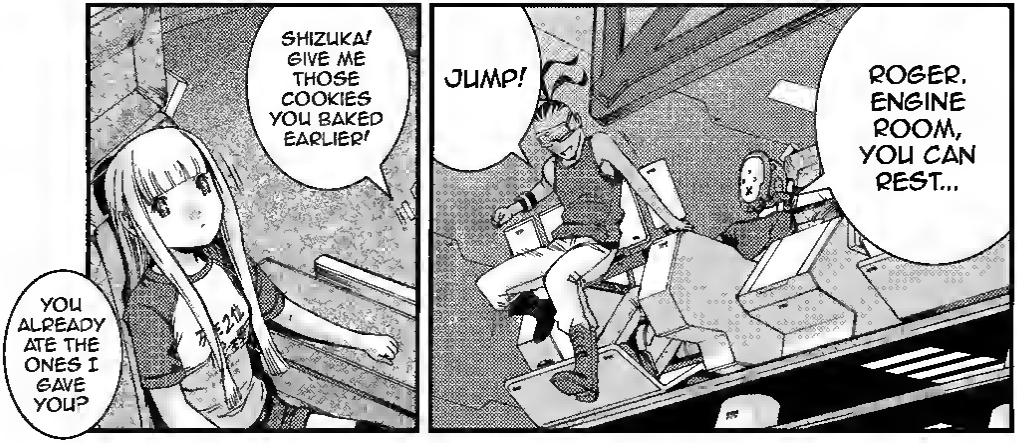

SO IT'S THE LARGE BATTLESHIP HIEI NEXT TO MYOUKOU?
HIEI ??
KONGO ??
AND KONGOU'S FURTHER APART, WITH THE DESTROYERS.
YEAH.
MYOKO ??

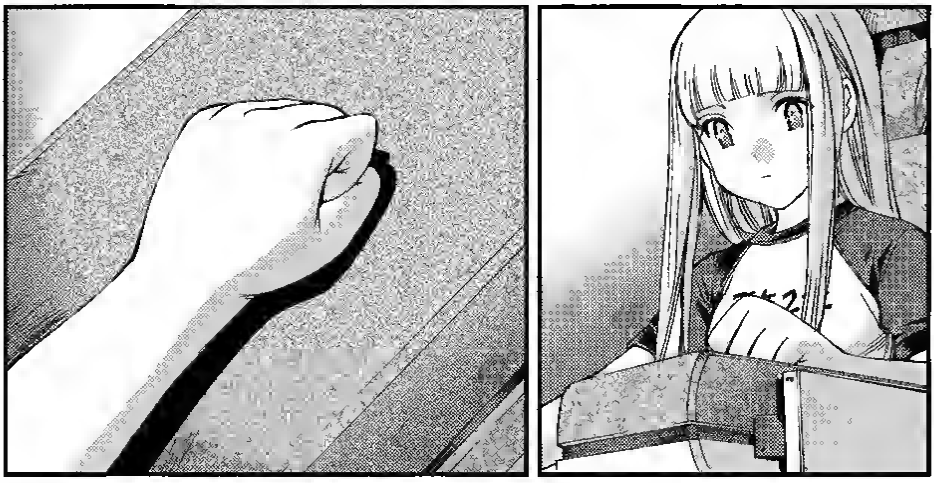
I THOUGHT SHE'D BRING THE WHOLE FLEET.
SHE MAY HAVE SEVERAL SUB-MARINES WITH HER.
万年2位
代理
MANNEN N°1

SO WHAT DO WE DO, CAPTAIN?
A VERY SERIOUS PERSON, ISN'T SHE?

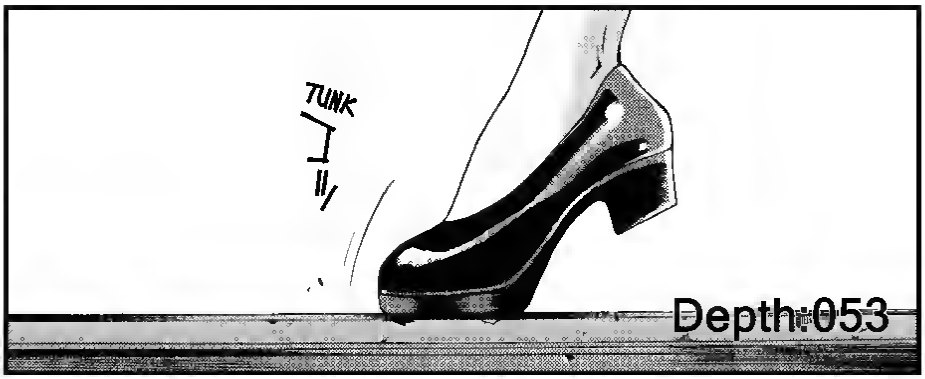
KONGOU TAKES HER JOB A LITTLE TOO SERIOUSLY.
KONGO ??
BATTLESHIP
SHE WON'T ABANDON HER ORIGINAL MISSION.

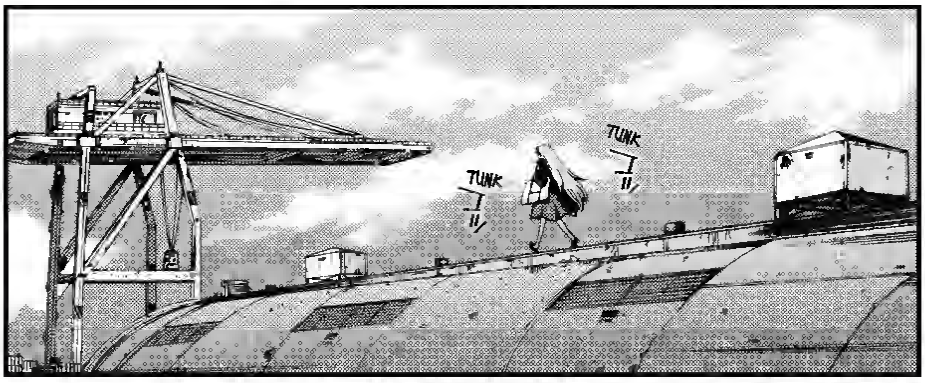
I WANT TO BUY SOME TIME, BUT IF WE DON'T TAKE ACTION...
...THEY'LL FIGURE OUT THAT WE'RE BUYING TIME.
WE'LL ATTACK AGAIN IN TWO HOURS. REST UNTIL THEN.

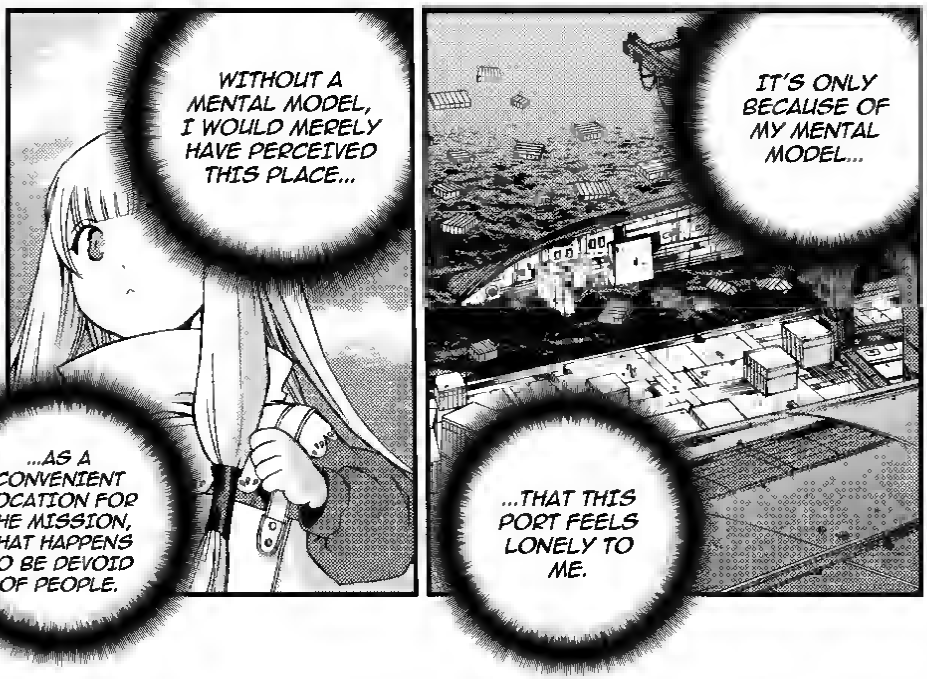

ROGER. ENGINE ROOM, YOU CAN REST...
JUMP!
SHIZUKA! GIVE ME THOSE COOKIES YOU BAKED EARLIER!
YOU ALREADY ATE THE ONES I GAVE YOU?



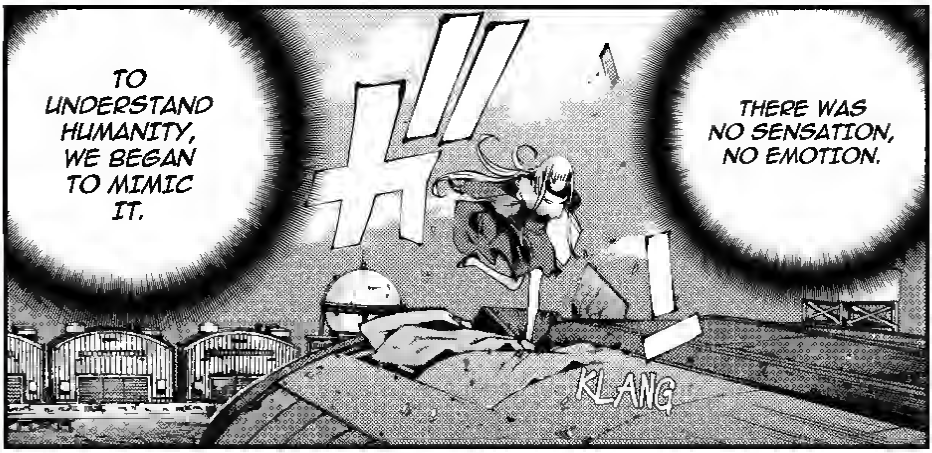
COME BACK SOON...
...ETERNAL #2.

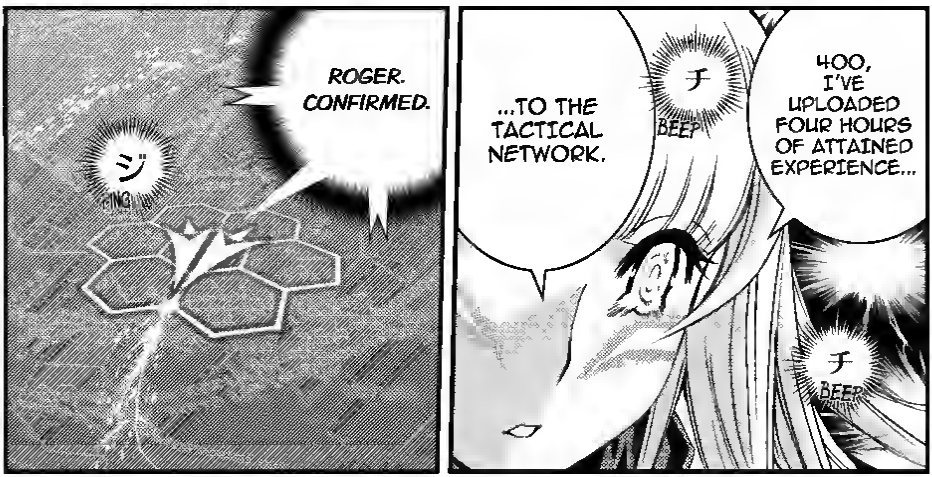

TUNK
Depth:053


TUNK
TUNK
TUNK

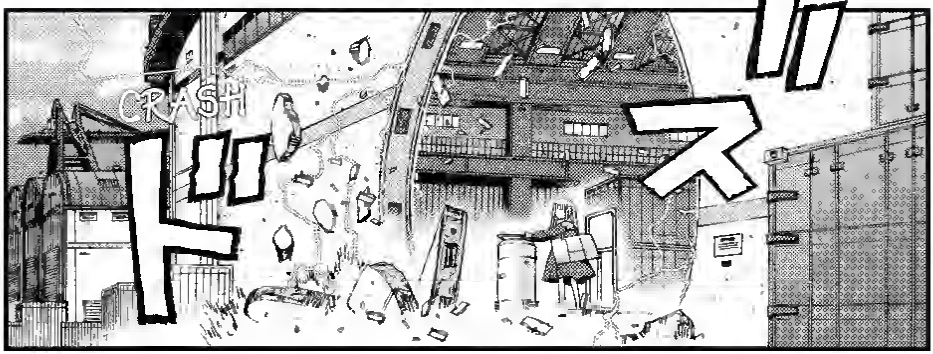

WITHOUT A MENTAL MODEL, I WOULD MERELY HAVE PERCEIVED THIS PLACE...
...AS A CONVENIENT LOCATION FOR THE MISSION, THAT HAPPENS TO BE DEVOID OF PEOPLE.
IT'S ONLY BECAUSE OF MY MENTAL MODEL...
...THAT THIS PORT FEELS LONELY TO ME.

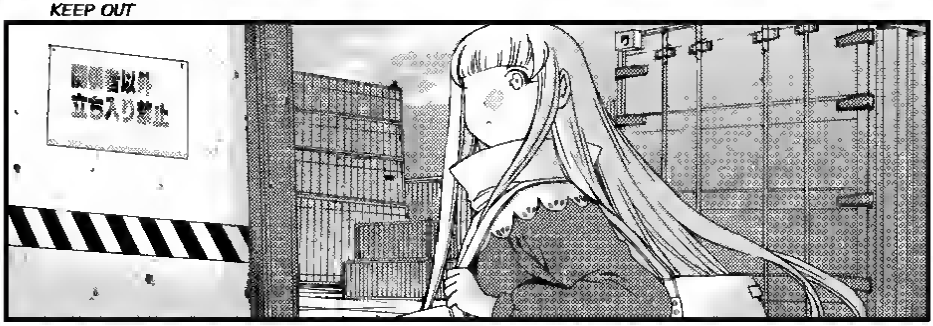
YES... UNTIL WE ATTAINED MENTAL MODELS, ALL WE COULD DO WAS PERCEIVE.
PERCEPTION.
SHOOM

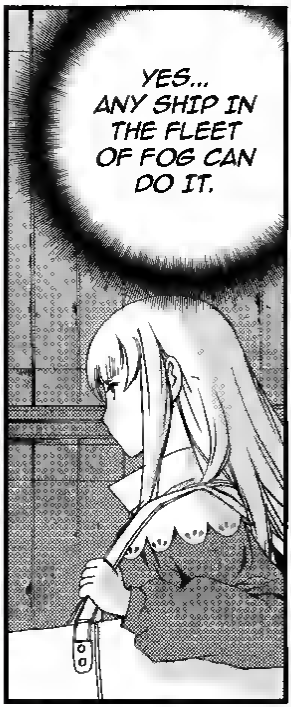

TO UNDERSTAND HUMANITY, WE BEGAN TO MIMIC IT.
THERE WAS NO SENSATION, NO EMOTION.
KLANG

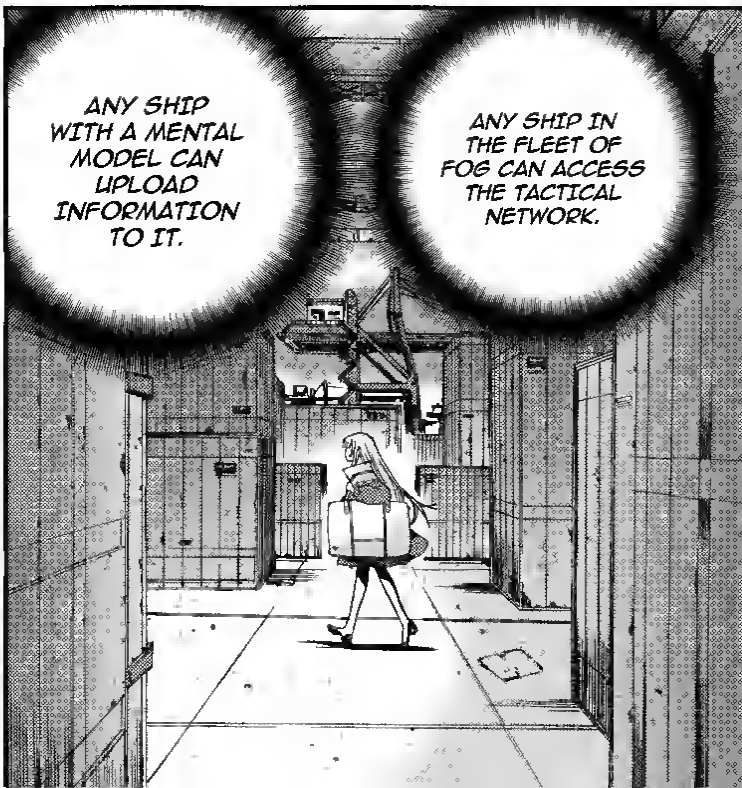

ROGER. CONFIRMED.
ジ
ING
...TO THE TACTICAL NETWORK.
チ
BEEP
400, I'VE UPLOADED FOUR HOURS OF ATTAINED EXPERIENCE...
チ
BEEP

WHIRRRR
PARALLELIZING DATA.
TAK
...ALLOWING US TO DEEPEN OUR UNDERSTANDING OF HUMANITY'S TACTICS.
EACH INDIVIDUAL MENTAL MODEL'S EXPERIENCE IS UPLOADED AND STORED...
THIS WAS THE PRIMARY REASON BEHIND THE CREATION OF THE TACTICAL NETWORK.
IN THE END, THIS WOULD ALLOW US TO DEVELOP OUR OWN, UNIQUE TACTICS.


CRASH
ドーン


KEEP OUT


YES... ANY SHIP IN THE FLEET OF FOG CAN DO IT.


ANY SHIP WITH A MENTAL MODEL CAN UPLOAD INFORMATION TO IT.
ANY SHIP IN THE FLEET OF FOG CAN ACCESS THE TACTICAL NETWORK.

...CAN STILL ACCESS THE TACTICAL NETWORK?
SO WHY IS IT THAT 401...
...AND YET EVEN AFTER HER ESCAPE SHE'S STILL ALLOWED ACCESS USING 401'S KEY.
?
TAKAO DESIGNATED MY SISTER AS A FLAGSHIP...
WHAT, ACCORDING TO THE HIGH FLAGSHIP, MAKES ONE A MEMBER OF THE FLEET?
THEN WHAT IS IT THAT DEFINES A SHIP AS PART OF THE FLEET OF FOG?
DOES THIS MEAN THEY'RE STILL PART OF THE FLEET OF FOG?

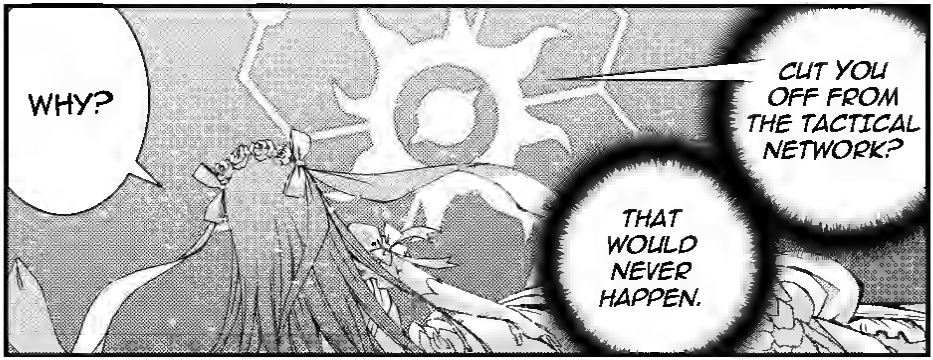
HEY, 402.
IS IT ONLY BECAUSE OF MY MENTAL MODEL THAT I'M THINKING THESE THINGS?
WHAT?
TAK
TAK
NEVER MIND. THANK YOU FOR COMING.
I'LL SHOW YOU TO MY HOME, ZUIKAKU.
WE CAN TURN IT INTO WHAT THE HUMANS CALL "CUISINE."
BLORP
BLORP
IT WILL GIVE US AN ADDITIONAL BARGAINING CHIP WITH THEM.
THERE WAS GREAT FISHING TO BE HAD OFF THE COAST.

GULP
YOU THINK? THEY'RE OKAY AS IS.
THEY'LL STILL TRADE PLENTY OF STUFF FOR THEM.
SLURP
SLURP
SO YOU HAVE BEEN MEETING WITH THE HUMANS.
I'D NOTICED THAT YOUR EXPERIENCE POINTS ON THE TACTICAL NETWORK...
WERE A LOT HIGHER THAN ANYONE ELSE'S.
IT'S BECAUSE YOU GUYS KEEP IGNORING US!
WHEN I GOT A MENTAL MODEL, IT ALSO GAVE ME THE CONCEPT OF "BOREDOM."
I JUST COULDN'T HANDLE IT.
EITHER WAY, YOU'RE UNDER MY COMMAND NOW.
DON'T DO ANYTHING WITHOUT MY PERMISSION.
GRRRR

HARUNA WOULD PROBABLY LIKE THAT WORD.
FRIENDSHIP? OH YES, A "CLOSE RELATIONSHIP."
REALLY? THIS MUST BE WHAT THEY CALL FRIENDSHIP.
I WON'T TELL THE HIGH FLAGSHIP.
I ALWAYS WANTED TO TRY ONE OF THOSE.
HEY, HEY! DOES YOUR HOUSE HAVE A FUTON?
REALLY?!
THIS COUNTRY'S IN VERY BAD SHAPE RIGHT NOW, SO I DON'T KNOW IF I CAN FIND ONE. BUT I'LL DO MY BEST.
YOU DON'T OFTEN GET A CHANCE TO GO ON LAND. NO REASON YOU CAN'T ENJOY THAT MUCH.
A FUTON?
I JUST HAVE TO TRY IT ONCE TO GET THE DATA. THEN I CAN USE IT AS MUCH AS I WANT!

チ
PING
チ
PING
NOT EVEN YOU YOURSELF.
NOBODY HAS REALIZED THE TRUTH ABOUT YOU YET, IONA.
WHY HAVEN'T I BEEN CUT OFF FROM THE TACTICAL NETWORK?
IS THIS SOME KIND OF PLOT BY SOMEONE?
YOU'RE RIGHT.
BUT...

AND ABOUT GUNZOU, MY CAPTAIN...
WILL THIS PLOT LEAD TO HIS DESTRUCTION?

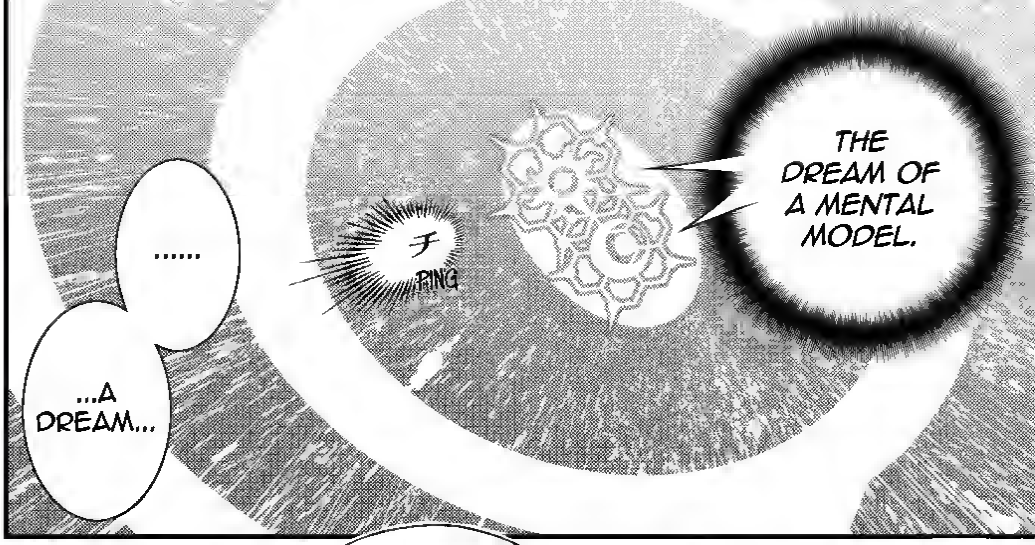

WHY?
CUT YOU OFF FROM THE TACTICAL NETWORK?
THAT WOULD NEVER HAPPEN.

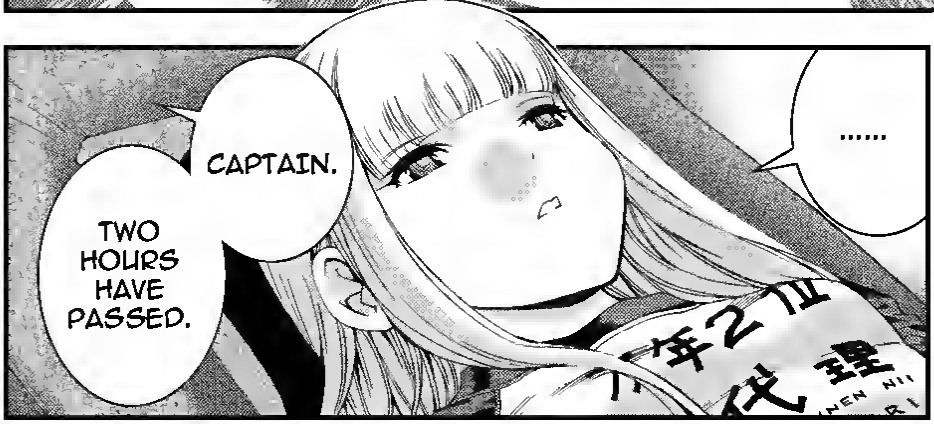
YOU COULD NEVER BE CUT OFF FROM IT.
BECAUSE YOU ARE THE TACTICAL NETWORK.
IT IS YOUR ENTIRETY.

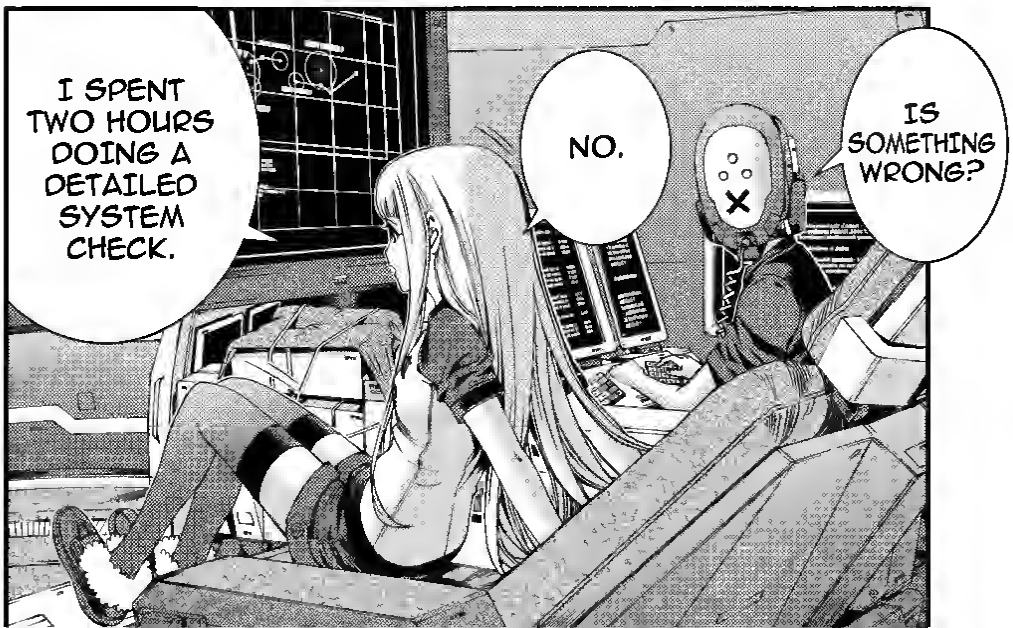
THE TACTICAL NETWORK...
...IS ME?
チ
EVEN NOW, I CAN SENSE IT BENEATH THE CONSCIOUSNESS OF MY MENTAL MODEL.
チ
PING
YOU ARE FUNCTIONING PERFECTLY.
THEN WHAT...
...ARE YOU...?
I AM SOMETHING LIKE A SELF-DIAGNOSTIC PROGRAM.

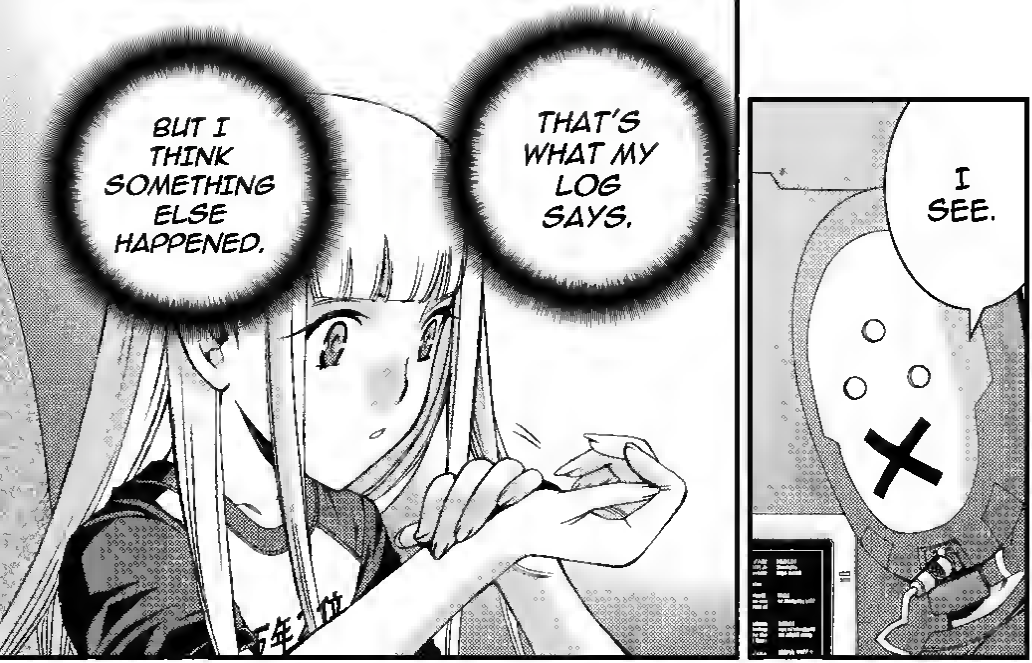
ARE YOU ACTING IN ACCORDANCE WITH YOUR SETTINGS? THAT'S WHAT I CAN SEE.
ARE YOU FUNCTIONAL?
チ
PING.
THAT'S FINE. YOU'RE FUNCTIONING PERFECTLY.
I DON'T UNDERSTAND WHAT YOU'RE SAYING AT ALL.

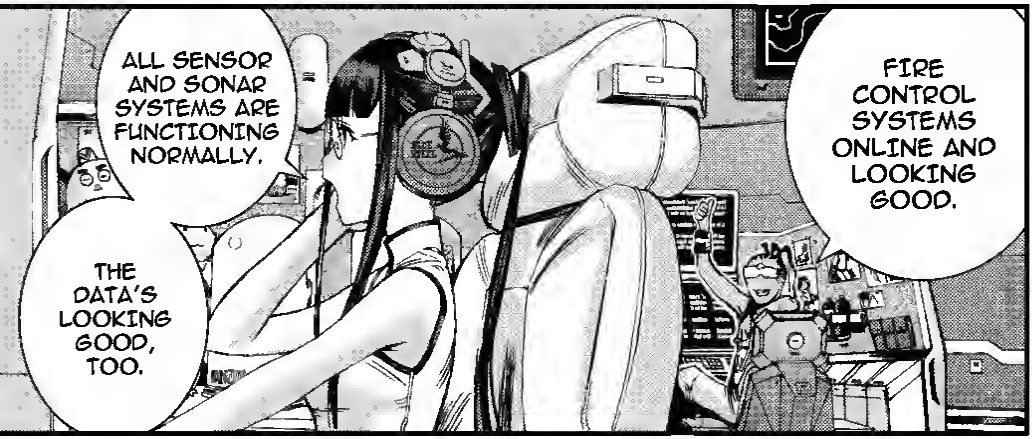
TWO HOURS HAVE PASSED.
IT'S TIME FOR YOU TO WAKE UP.
TODAY'S SELF-DIAGNOSTIC IS COMPLETE.
A DREAM... PERHAPS?
YES, WHY NOT SIMPLY THINK OF IT AS A DREAM?
THEN... THEN HOW AM I SUPPOSED TO INTERPRET THIS?
YES.
A DREAM?

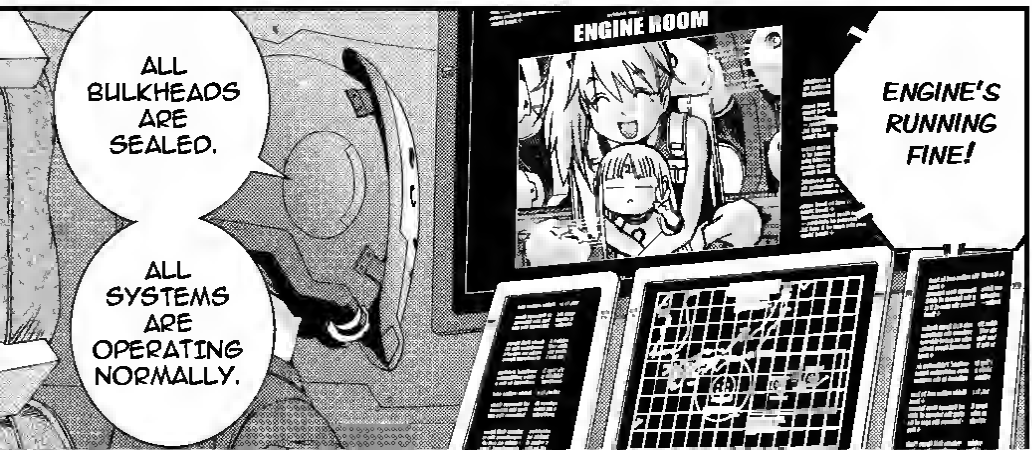

THE DREAM OF A MENTAL MODEL.
チ
PING
.....
...A DREAM...

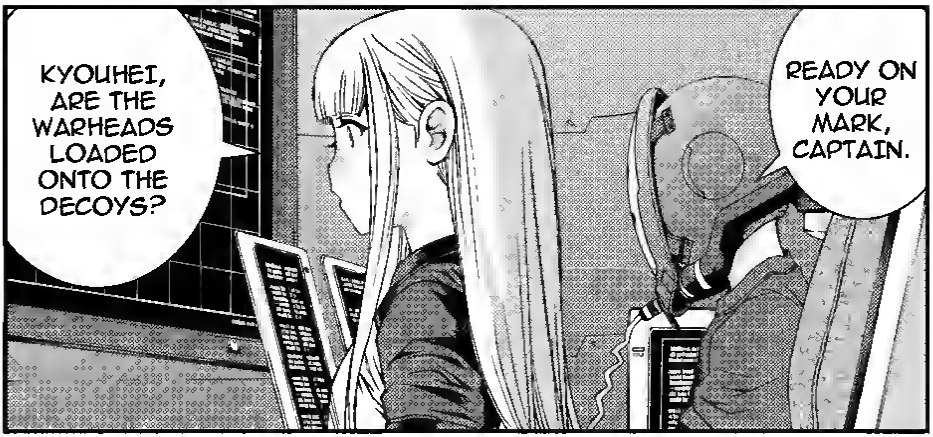

.....
CAPTAIN.
TWO HOURS HAVE PASSED.

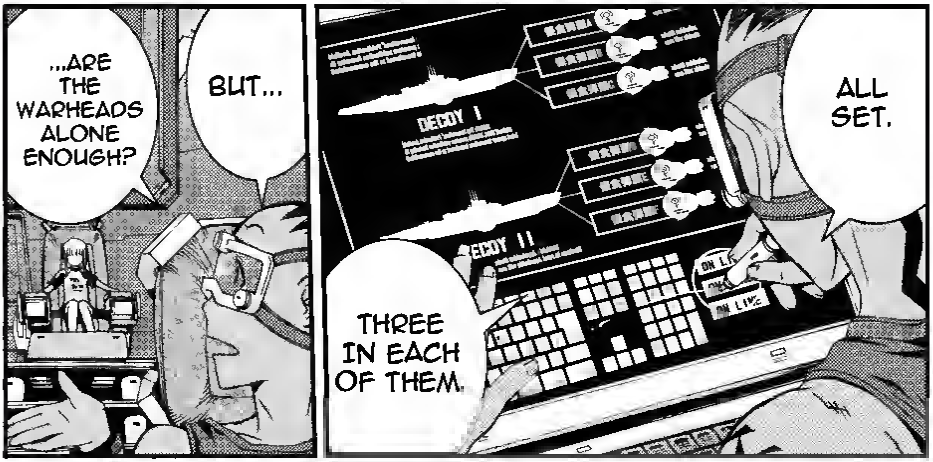

IS SOMETHING WRONG?
NO.
I SPENT TWO HOURS DOING A DETAILED SYSTEM CHECK.


THAT'S WHAT MY LOG SAYS.
BUT I THINK SOMETHING ELSE HAPPENED.
I SEE.

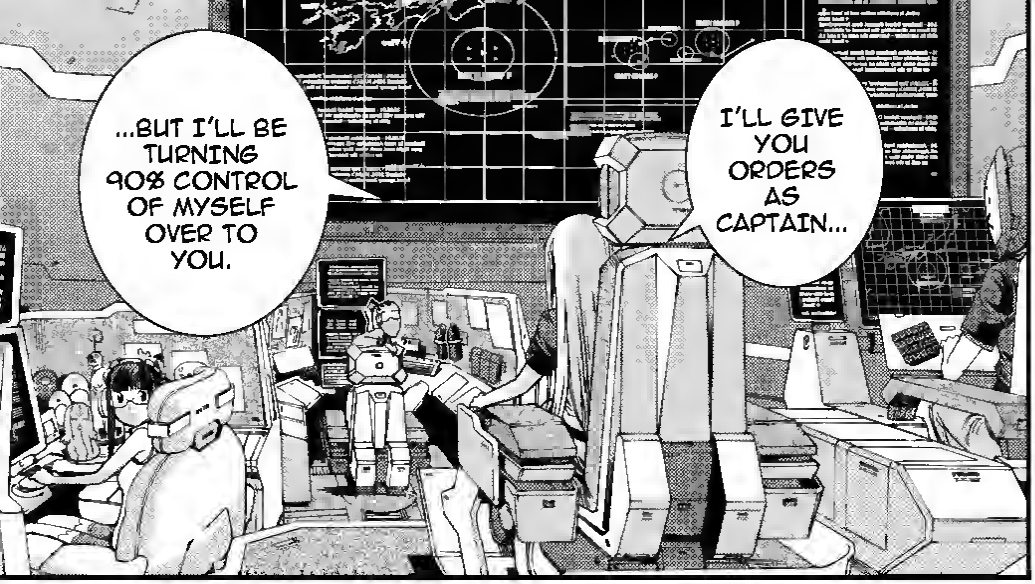

ALL SENSOR AND SONAR SYSTEMS ARE FUNCTIONING NORMALLY.
THE DATA'S LOOKING GOOD, TOO.
FIRE CONTROL SYSTEMS ONLINE AND LOOKING GOOD.

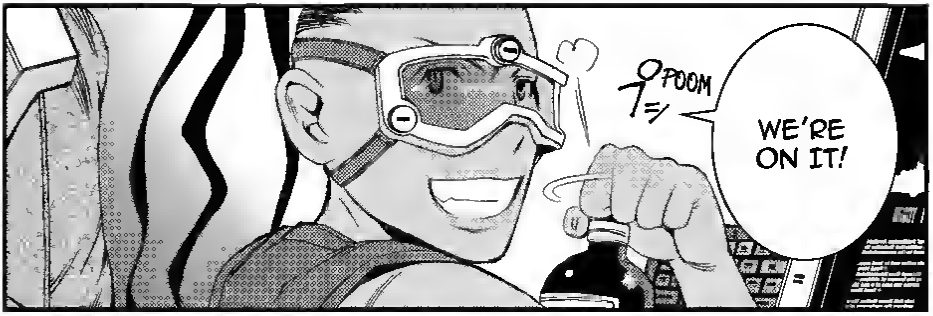

ALL BULKHEADS ARE SEALED.
ALL SYSTEMS ARE OPERATING NORMALLY.
ENGINE ROOM
ENGINE'S RUNNING FINE!

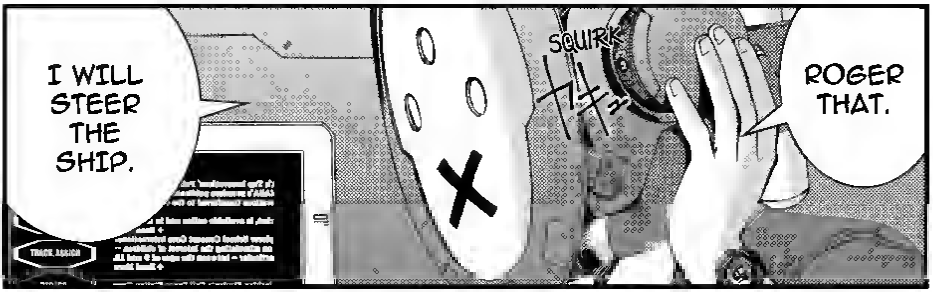

KYOUHEI, ARE THE WARHEADS LOADED ONTO THE DECOYS?
READY ON YOUR MARK, CAPTAIN.


...ARE THE WARHEADS ALONE ENOUGH?
BUT...
DECOY I
DECOY II
ALL SET.
THREE IN EACH OF THEM.

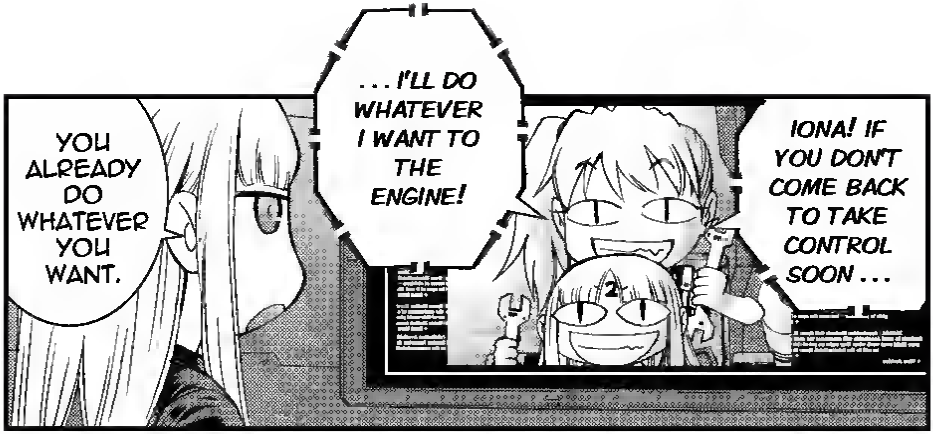
I NEED TO MAKE THREE DECOYS MOVE LIKE REAL SHIPS.
THEY'LL DO FINE. I'M ABOUT TO BEGIN HIGH-DENSITY INFORMATION PROCESSING.
万年2位
代理

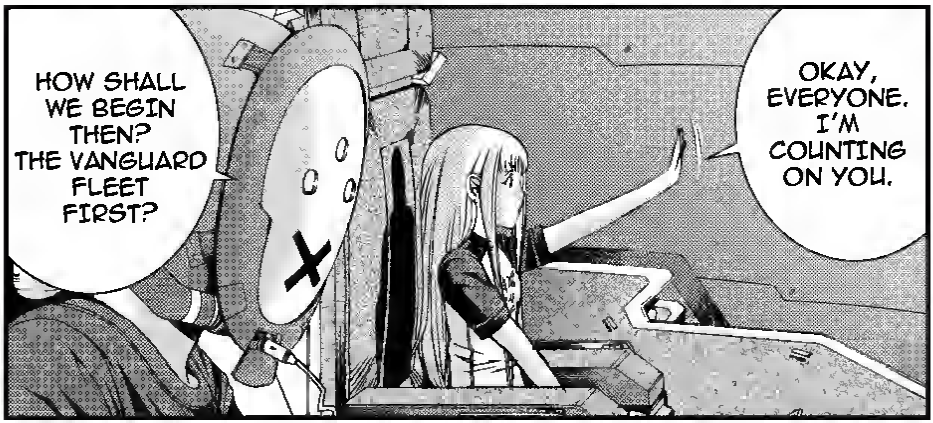

I'LL GIVE YOU ORDERS AS CAPTAIN...
...BUT I'LL BE TURNING 90% CONTROL OF MYSELF OVER TO YOU.

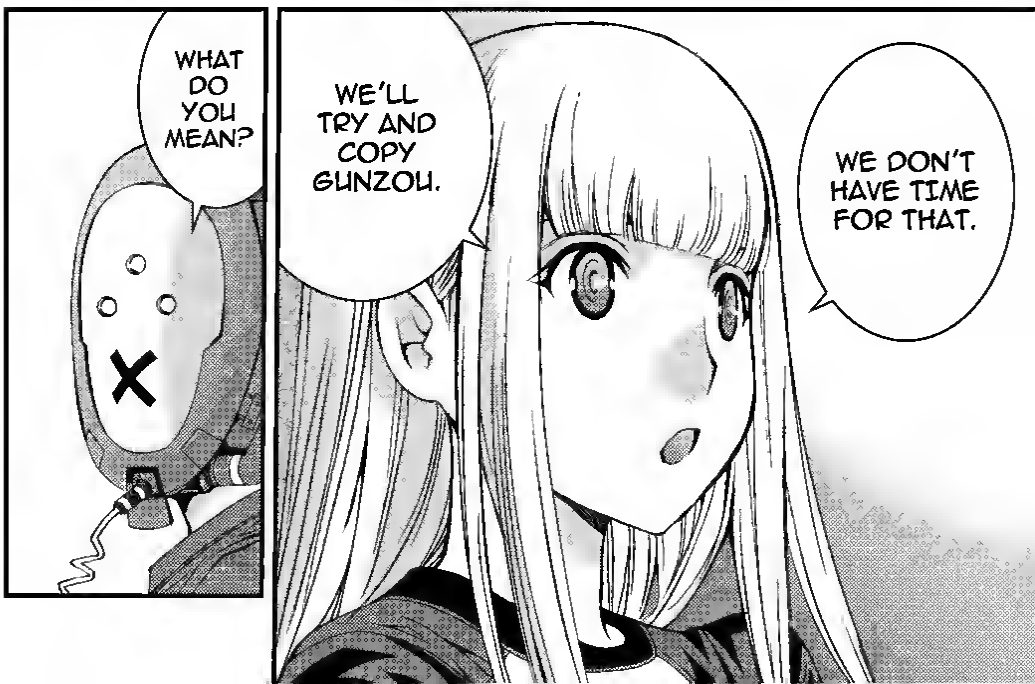

POOM
WE'RE ON IT!

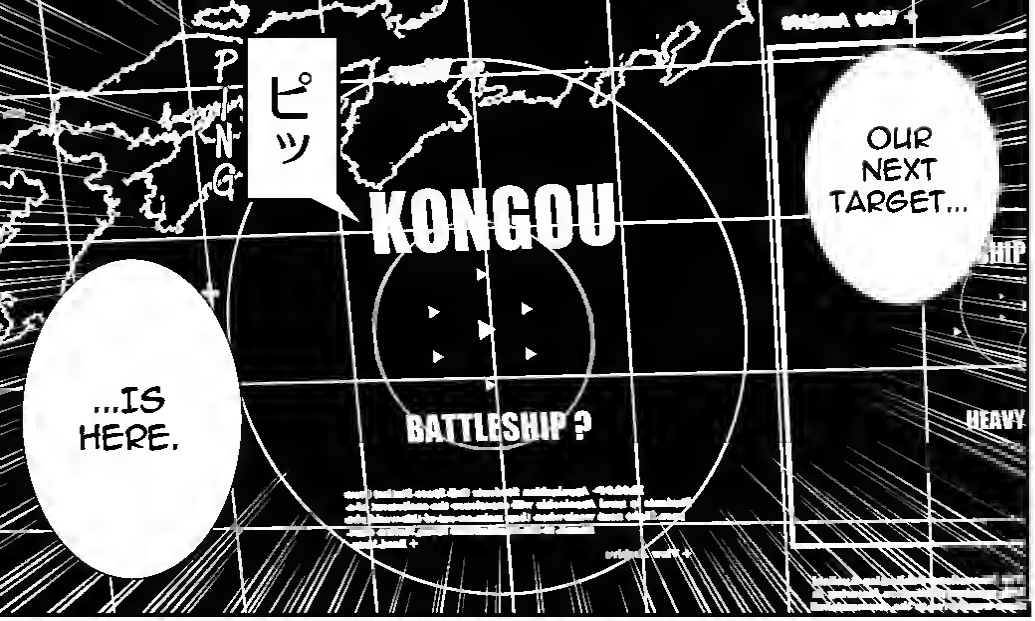

SQUIRK
ROGER THAT.
I WILL STEER THE SHIP.

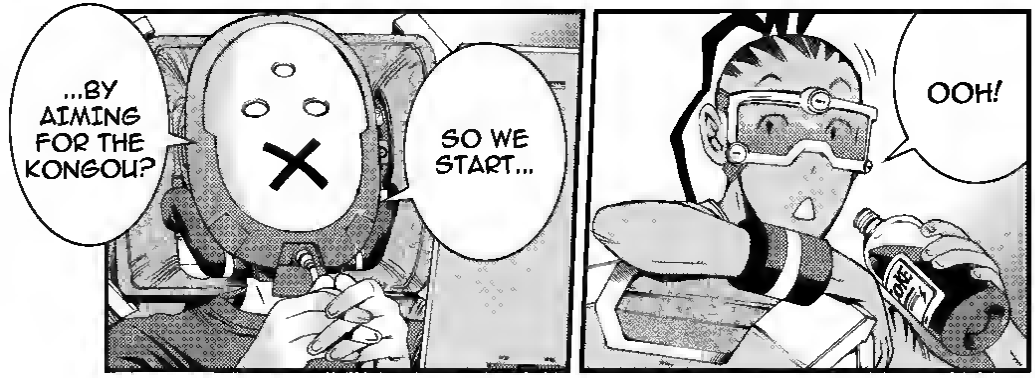
ALL SET TO GO!

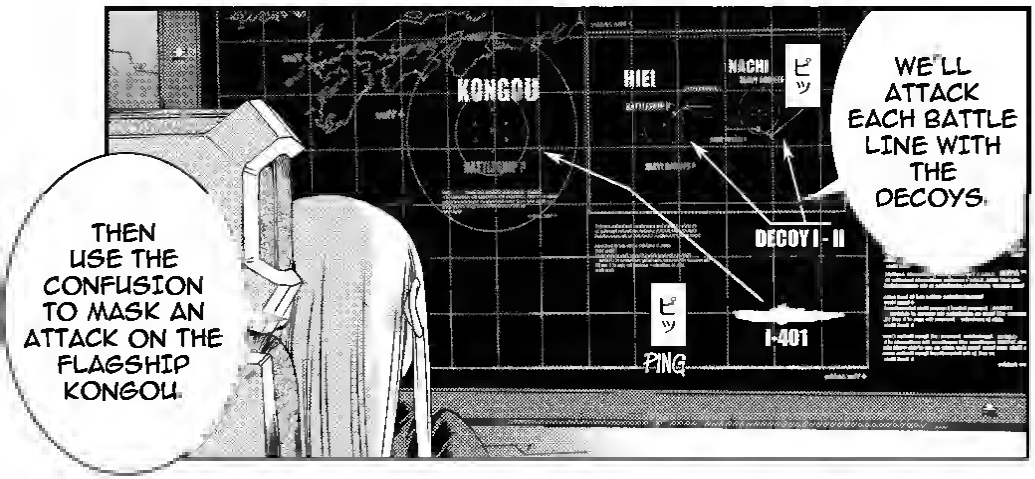

YOU ALREADY DO WHATEVER YOU WANT.
. . . I'LL DO WHATEVER I WANT TO THE ENGINE!
IONA! IF YOU DON'T COME BACK TO TAKE CONTROL SOON . . .


HOW SHALL WE BEGIN THEN? THE VANGUARD FLEET FIRST?
OKAY, EVERYONE. I'M COUNTING ON YOU.


WHAT DO YOU MEAN?
WE'LL TRY AND COPY GUNZOU.
WE DON'T HAVE TIME FOR THAT.


ピッ
KONGOU
OUR NEXT TARGET...
...IS HERE.
BATTLESHIP ?
HEAVY


...BY AIMING FOR THE KONGOU?
SO WE START...
OOH!

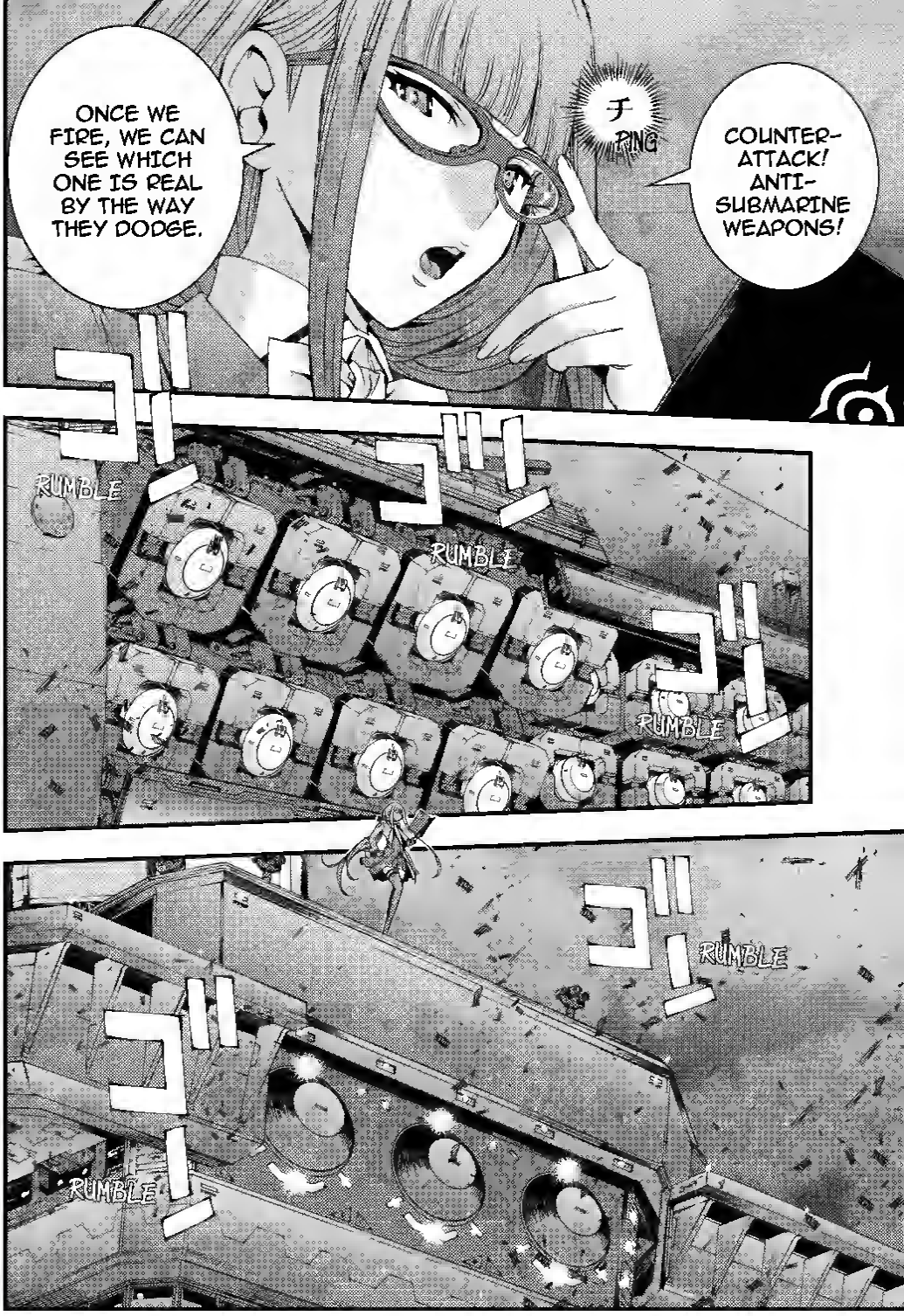

KONGOU
HIEI
NACHI
ピッ
WE'LL ATTACK EACH BATTLE LINE WITH THE DECOYS.
DECOY I - II
ピッ
PING
I-401
THEN USE THE CONFUSION TO MASK AN ATTACK ON THE FLAGSHIP KONGOU.

KONGOU
I-401
HIEI
BATTLESHIP
DESTROYER
DECOY-II
PING
ピッ
PING
ピッ
IF POSSIBLE, WE'LL TRY TO SINK IT, BUT AT A MINIMUM, BY TARGETING THE FLAGSHIP...
...WE CAN FORCE THEM TO DRAW THEIR PATROL LINES BACK TO IT.
THAT WILL BUY US MORE TIME.
AH, SO THAT'S WHY...
CLINK
...YOU NEED TO TAKE FINE CONTROL OF THE DECOYS?
THAT'S RIGHT.
THEY HAVE A LOT OF DATA ABOUT ME.
IF I USE THE SEMI-AUTONOMOUS PRESETS LIKE I USUALLY DO...
...THEY'LL SPOT THE FAKES IMMEDIATELY.

CLICK
カシャ
ROGER THAT.
OKAY, EVERYONE!
LET'S GET STARTED!
CLAP
!!

ACCELERATING AT DEPTH ONE TWO ZERO.
PING
チ
STARBOARD CONTACT! BEARING TWO EIGHT TWO. SPEED FOUR ZERO KNOTS!
THAT UPWELLING IS BRINGING THE THERMOCLINE THIS CLOSE TO THE SURFACE?
PING
チ
チ
PING
WAIT! WHAT THE HECK?! THEY JUST SHOW UP RIGHT NEXT TO US?
YOU CAN ANALYZE IT LATER! EVASIVE MANEUVERS!
ドゥ
WHOOM
NACHI!
ドゥ
WHOOM
ドゥ
WHOOM

BOOK: STUDENT COUNCIL REGISTER


ONCE WE FIRE, WE CAN SEE WHICH ONE IS REAL BY THE WAY THEY DODGE.
チ PING
COUNTER-ATTACK! ANTI-SUBMARINE WEAPONS!
RUMBLE
RUMBLE
RUMBLE
RUMBLE
RUMBLE

BOOOOM
BROOOOM
BROOOOOM

ACTIVE DECOYS CAN'T DODGE LIKE THAT!
MYOUKOU, THIS ONE'S THE REAL ONE!
NO. THIS ONE'S DODGING AT TOP SPEED TOO!
NONE OF THEM ARE DODGING LIKE ACTIVE DECOYS.
WHAT'S GOING ON?
THAT'S RIGHT. 401 HAS HUMANS ON BOARD.
SHE'S HAVING THEM CONTROL THE SHIP...
IT'S HEADING STRAIGHT FOR US!
SAME HERE!

ALL SHIPS, EVASIVE MANEUVERS!
THEY'RE USING ACTIVE DECOYS TO CONFUSE US AND BUY TIME!
THEY'RE COMING STRAIGHT AT US LIKE GUIDED TORPEDOES!
SWOOSH
IS SHE PLANNING TO GO RIGHT UNDER ME?
NO! THAT COURSE IS-
!!

NACHI!
B O O M
HAGURO?!
SHWOOM

BLASH
BLASH
GET BACK!

ズズズ
S K R E E E E
KA
ドドド
BOOOM
ドドド

Ark Performance

09

蒼き鋼のアルペジオ

ARPEGGIO OF BLUE STEEL

YOUNG KING COMICS

YKC "ARPEGGIO OF BLUE STEEL"
Ark Performance Presents"
The torpedo is launched by the submarine.
It is terrible destructive power.
Take care not to hit.